

The Senior Scribe

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EXTRA!! EXTRA!!



BULLDOGS REUNITE FOR 50TH REUNION EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEWS INSIDE!!

Richard (Dick) Baker

(1975) 10 Year Class Prophecy

“Pushin pickles at Vlastic and drinking watered down Goebel at B.J.’s.”

Spouse/SO:
Debra Morgan

Tina Balla

(1975) 10 Year Class Prophecy

“10 years from now I will be so sick of Michigan weather that I will be in sunny California water skiing and soaking up the sunshine. My hobo friends and I will take Sue V.K.’s purse into the grocery store to get any food we need ‘cause by then prices will be so high that we’ll coincide with the prices and ENJOY!”

Spouse/SO:
None

Children:
2 bad ass kids

Education and Training:
BS in Ed., LMSW

Occupation:
Retired

My Life Since High School:
BUSY

My Life Since Retirement:
Happy

Favorite Bentley High School Memories:
Athletics

Sue Bargy (McBride)

(1975) 10 Year Class Prophecy

"I will be climbing the walls with 3 little kids running around the house."

Spouse:

Denny McBride

Years Married:

20 Years

Children:

Heather Turnwald is married to Greg Turnwald and they have 2 beautiful daughters. Heather currently works as a bookkeeper/office manager for a non-profit. She has recently returned to school to advance her career. She's also a busy mom managing the equestrian team, leading a Girl Scout troop, and driving the girls to 4H and various sporting events.

Gretchen McBride is my stepdaughter and the same age as Heather. She is engaged to Sam Fischer. She has worked for 911 in Huron County, MI for 18 years. We are very proud of how well she works under pressure and of all the people she helps daily. In her spare time, she loves to garden, shop, and spend time with her nieces.

Garrett McBride is two years younger than the girls. He served in the Marines for 4 years. When he left the military he decided to stay in sunny CA. - go figure. After years in California he decided to move east. He is currently a police officer in Washington, DC. His dad and I were face timing with him one day when he was in his police car. We heard pop, pop! We were both: "What was that?" His response was: "Gunfire I gotta go!" We worry about him daily.

Grandchildren:

I have 2 beautiful granddaughters.

Audrey just turned 16 and is a sophomore in high school. She is a member of the National Honor Society, runs cross country in the fall, and plays softball or runs track in the spring. She is a 4H member and shows goats and bunnies at the Shiawassee County Fair. Audrey loves horseback riding and hosting parties, including an end-of-school pool party and an annual Halloween bash.

Paige just turned 14 and is in 8th grade. She can't wait to get her license! She's an all-A student and a 2nd degree black belt in Tae Kwon Do, working toward her 3rd degree. She is very competitive, having played basketball and softball, and currently runs track. She also shows goats at the county fair, rides a black Mustang pony with her 4H team, and recently discovered a passion for acting after appearing in her first play. We are very proud of both our granddaughters and enjoy attending their sporting and county fair events, and now high school plays! They are smart and beautiful!

Education and Training:

Graduated *Summa Cum Laude* from Northwood University with a BBS

Occupation:

I have worked in the grocery industry for 40 years. I spent 7 years in various roles at VG's, then transitioned into sales. I worked for Campbell Soup and was a two-time National Merit Award winner. After Campbell's dissolved its sales force 14 years ago, I joined the Natural Organic grocery world and currently work for United Natural Foods Inc., the largest independent grocery wholesaler in the U.S. I plan to retire within the next year.

My Life Since High School:

I lived in Germany for 2 years, then returned to live in the Davison area for 11 years. I have lived in Frankenmuth for the past 35 years. My husband and I also have a home in Caseville.

I was a single mom for several years, raising my daughter while working and traveling when possible. I love to paint, decorate, and work in the yard.

I have taken several bus trips with my BFF, Cindy Horvath Burton. We frequently go shopping together, including cherished mall outings when our kids were small and annual Christmas shopping trips.

My husband and I enjoy traveling and have visited Mexico, Hawaii, Alaska, San Diego, and Palm Springs. We spend a lot of time with our granddaughters and have weekly Saturday dinners with Heather and her family.

My Life Since Retirement:

Not yet retired — just livin' the good life. 😊

Favorite Bentley High School Memories:

Going to sporting events with friends, attending school plays to support friends in the cast, and just hanging out and having fun.

Nancy "Chip" Bernat (Purdue)

(1975) 10 Year Class Prophecy

"In 10 years I will be shooting radioactive waves into innocent victims; then refer them to Rosso for pain relief prescriptions."

Spouse/SO:

Larry Purdue

Years Married:

45 this August (wait, I'm not *that* old!)

Sheryl Bicsok (Pieknik)

(1975) 10 Year Class Prophecy

“Ten years from now I will be living at home with Mommy and Daddy and begging them to please let me grow up.”

Spouse/SO:
Matt

Years Married:
43

Children:
1,025! Not being gifted with my own kids, I was gifted with others' in 41 years of teaching.

Education and Training:
Master's Degree in Education

Occupation:
Elementary teacher: 1st grade through 6th grade.

My Life Since High School:
I absolutely loved my job of teaching kids. It kept my thinking young. Those kids kept me hopping trying to figure out new ways to reach them and make them want to come to school.

My husband built our home in Flushing. We love it! I have loved many pets—my kids—through the years! I now have a dog and two cats. They are definitely on a time table when it comes to meals and let me know it's time to eat! Lol!

We have a great group of friends that we see all the time. Euchre tournaments, camping up north, vacations, pool parties, campfires together—lots of laughs. We have been blessed!

I have raised monarch butterflies for over forty years in the summer. I have learned A LOT about butterflies. Last year I set 168 monarchs free. It definitely is a commitment, but I don't mind because I have seen their populations plummet since I first started doing this for my classroom. I'm trying, in a small way, to help them survive.

**I have TOO many interests or hobbies! I'm big into holidays. Halloween is one of my favorites. I decorate for each holiday. I garden—vegetables and flowers. Of course, I grow milkweed for my monarchs. I have my own library full of books, mostly kids' books. I craft. Enough about me!
I have had a great time!**

My Life Since Retirement:

Enjoying every minute. Having time to finish counted cross stitch projects that I started twenty years ago is great. It's nice to NOT have to be somewhere every day. After getting up early for over forty years, I can sleep until the crack of nine every morning. Lol! I love retirement.

Favorite Bentley High School Memories:

Going to sporting games and then going to Paliani's afterwards. I can't find a pizza that compares. Going to assemblies. Walking around and around during nutrition break. Art class, typing class, creative writing with Mrs. Schwartz, French class with poor Mr. Nelson, gym, lunch—lots and lots of memories.

Ron Blackhurst

Spouse/SO:

Nancy

Children:

1

Grandchildren:

Twin Girls

Education/Training:

2 year degree

Occupation:

Retired

Mary Brockway (Yarbrough)

(1975) 10 Year Class Prophecy

“Ten years from now I’ll probably be stuck in some secretarial rut with bills sky high, a couple of German Shepherds and taking care of some family, mine preferably.”

Years Married:

Married for 24 years; divorced in 2003

Children:

Twin daughters Kate & Jenny and son Jim

Grandchildren:

5 grandchildren

Great-Grandchildren:

2 & growing up too fast!

Education and Training:

Master’s in Holistic Ministries

Occupation:

Retired associate pastor; retired, Foundation for Mott Community College; retired, Hurley Cancer Center

My Life Since High School:

Worked in the medical and education fields for 43 years.

Bivocational as associate pastor at two local non-denominational churches.

Entered the field of alternative medicine in 2004.

Raised three lovely children.

Currently child-sitting her 3-year-old grandson.

Favorite Bentley High School Memories:

Roaming the halls with Denise Graff as secret agents,

band with Mr. Kolbe, euchre at lunch with Sharon Irwin Allen and Cindy Misener,

competing for first chair clarinet with Cindy Misener



Rusty Clark

Spouse:
Divorced (18 years)

Years Married:
23

Children:
One boy, two girls

Grandchildren:
Two girls, one boy

Education and Training:
"Bulldog University"

Occupation:
Carpenter

My Life Since High School:

I've been blessed—on the hamster wheel like most, with ups and downs like most—but God has gotten me through it, and taught me to enjoy the moments while we go through them. He sees the final picture.

My Life Since Retirement:

After checking the weather and gas prices, the day's pretty well open! 😊
I try to take time with family. I took care of my folks for 14 years.
I try to see my family and grandkids as much as possible, and get my "therapy" from bow hunting and fishing.

Favorite Bentley High School Memories:

There were too many... but coming into a set family, I'd like to thank you all for accepting me, "the teacher's kid." I always felt welcomed. The hardest one was Big Russ, who made sure I was not going to get any special favors on the football field, if any at all. We were over in Montrose, and I made a mistake on the field. Big Russ pulled me out and tore me up and down in front of everybody. Dick Baker came over to me and said, "If that was my — ole man, I'd quit right now and walk home!" He truly meant it! 🙏

Linda Coleman (Allen)

(1975) 10 Year Class Prophecy

“Sitting at home keeping house and watching the kids waiting for Ken to get home from work.”

Spouse:
Ken

Years Married:
50 years (Married September 6, 1975)

Children:
Kyle – Living in Alabama; he is a youth pastor.

Kaydi – Lives in Springfield. Married to their second son, Ricky. Kaydi is the assistant principal at Dayspring Christian School. Ricky works in the corporate office for O’Reilly Auto Parts.

Grandchildren:

Hadlee (14) and Eleanor (11) joined the family on Halloween 2014.

Kennon (13), Risa (11), Marcus (9), Asher (7), Charis (6), and Ruby (5) joined in Spring 2018.

All eight grandchildren were rescued from the foster system.

Occupation:
Full-time mom for 21 years

My Life Since High School:

We lived on less than \$400/month when first married. 😊

Our first real trip was the first week of October 1982—we took a transvan (like a mini motor home) to New York City. We parked it and visited the top of one of the twin towers.

After paying for attended parking, the attendant locked his hut and left!

We then drove the coast to Bath, Maine, filled two big coolers with live lobsters, and drove home.

Our son Kyle was born in 1984—this is when we really grew up and became more responsible adults. Kaydi followed in 1986.

Kyle used to talk to her in the womb and told us he wanted a girl—but when she arrived and he was 2, he wanted to trade her for a boy. 🙄

We built our home in Flushing on 18 acres in 1993 and moved in January 1994.

We’ve traveled extensively—sometimes with kids, sometimes without. We’ve cruised 15–20 times (those were without kids). 👍

My Life Since Retirement:

Ken retired from GM in February 2016.

We bought our home in Springfield in April 2016. We've slowly remodeled everything ourselves—paint, flooring, bathroom, kitchen.

Now I'm ready to paint again... probably one room a week (used to be one a day!).

The kids and grandkids keep us busy—it truly takes a village!

Favorite Bentley High School Memories:

Marching band, football games, pizza afterward, and then parties.

Mark Conroy

(1975) 10 Year Class Prophecy

“Third table, second chair at BJ's Bar getting drunk.”

Spouse/SO:

Theresa Phelps

Years Married:

7 years

Children:

3 daughters

Grandchildren:

6 grandchildren

Great-Grandchildren:

2

Education and Training:

School of hard knocks, lol

Occupation:

HVAC Technician / Hourly Production

My Life Since High School:

Older –Wiser – Poorer... but extremely grateful for the great people in my life

My Life Since Retirement:

A pretty good mix of home improvement projects and leisure activities (golf, motorcycles, euchre night, trivia night, grandkids' activities, winters in Florida)

Favorite Bentley High School Memories:

Too many to document, lol... mostly positive, a few I wish I could do over

Terry Corn (Mick)

Spouse:

Larry Mick

Children:

Joey – lives in Japan with his wife and son

Jonathan – lives in Austin, Texas with his wife and son

Ashley – lives in Phoenix with her husband and daughter

Grandchildren:

Jack – just started his freshman year of college

Carlee – 12 years old

Max – 12 years old

Education and Training:

Educating Masters Plus degree

Occupation:

Retired Fine Arts Director at Lake Havasu High School, Arizona

Taught Visual Arts courses including Portfolio, Sculpture and Ceramics, Studio Arts, Art History, etc.

My Life Since High School:

Got married to Larry 3 days after graduation and moved to Mt. Pleasant to attend CMU.

Worked the following summer at Chippewa Trails Camp for Girls. Returned for sophomore year and Larry's graduation. Became CMU Housing Supervisors and had our first son. Briefly lived in Brown City, then moved to Lake Havasu, Arizona, where we both taught and raised our 3 children.

My Life Since Retirement:

Yay! I traveled a lot: Ireland, Thailand, Iceland, Costa Rica, Japan, etc.

Favorite Bentley High School Memories:

Too many!

Deb Crone (Struk)

Spouse:
John Struk

Years Married:
43 years

Tom Crystal

(1975) 10 Year Class Prophecy

“Working, (trying to).”

Spouse:
Denise Meadows Crystal (Class of '76)

Years Married::
45 years

Children:
One daughter, Heather, who is a great wife and a wonderful mom to two sons.
One son, Chad, who has his pilot license and is a project manager for an architecture firm.

Grandchildren:
We have two wonderful grandsons.
Our oldest is Aiden, who is 17 years old and a junior at Davison High School. He loves music, playing in three different bands at high school, and participating in marching band. He loves the outdoors.
Parker is 11 years old and is in 5th grade at Davison Hahn Intermediate School. He enjoys playing hockey and loves the outdoors.
Both grandsons love to fish and downhill ski.

Education and Training:
I graduated from Ferris State in 1980 with a Bachelor's degree in Accounting. In 1983, I obtained my CPA license.

Occupation:
For 40+ years I worked in the healthcare industry. In 2017, I retired as the Controller for Hurley Medical Center. I finished my career at McLaren Hospital in 2023.

My Life Since High School:

I married Denise Meadows in 1980. We have two wonderful kids and two amazing grandsons. I had a great career in Accounting and was on several state-wide committees for hospital accounting.

My hobbies and activities since graduation include softball, golfing, bowling, skiing (water and snow), fishing, pickleball, and reading.

We enjoy spending time with our kids and grandkids at our cottage on Little Long Lake in Hale, MI and also our condo in Ormond Beach, FL.

We love to spend time watching our one grandson play hockey, and the other grandson perform at band concerts and marching band performances.

My Life Since Retirement:

Since retirement in 2023, Denise and I have had the opportunity to do quite a bit of traveling. We've traveled to Italy, England, Scotland and Ireland.

While in Scotland, I played golf at the Old Course in St. Andrews. I've also played at TPC Sawgrass in Ponte Vedra Beach, FL.

We have gone on several cruises with our family and continue to read, play a lot of golf and pickleball, and spend lots of time at our cottage up north with our family.

Favorite Bentley High School Memories:

I came to Bentley High School in 9th grade and made many new friends, many of which I still have as close friends today. I met the love of my life in my senior year, Denise Meadows, and we married in 1980. I have many good memories of playing various sports (golf, cross country, basketball, and baseball), and was fortunate to be a part of the 1975 State Class B Baseball champion team. I enjoyed my high school days.

Bill Dean

Spouse:

Dawn Meyers Dean

Years Married:

48

Children:

2 girls and 1 boy-they are all doing good, my boy is an entrepreneur, he started a company selling windchimes on Amazon as a side hustle. His main job is a regional manager at US Foods. My girls work full-time and are doing well.

Grandchildren:

9 / just a joy to be around . Way too many to talk about each one.

Great-Grandchildren:

We have one that's four years old, wow, how old does that make me? 🤔

Education and Training:

Nothing past high school, went to work for GM.

Occupation:

Retired for nine years.

My Life Since High School:

Went from the state championship baseball team to playing softball. Traveled around the country playing at a high level. Went into coaching, coached for seven years. Started coaching middle school and eventually JV football and JV basketball. I Coached varsity softball at Swartz Creek for 7 years, one year of varsity baseball at Swartz Creek. Was a varsity assistant for one year at Swartz Creek for basketball. Then went into Officiating, I currently referee high school football, basketball, baseball, softball. Worked two state finals in football in Michigan for the MHSAA.

My Life Since Retirement:

Playing golf and refereeing.

Favorite Bentley High School Memories:

Being on 2 state championship baseball teams, going to the prom. When I go back to Bentley to referee a basketball game, I always drag my partners to the trophy case to show them the state championship trophy. As you can imagine, they roll their eyes 😊.

Lori Delaney (Burton)

(1975) 10 Year Class Prophecy

"Being a policewoman".

Spouse:

David Burton

Years Married:

20 years

Children:

Steven Rushton (born 1979) – Lives in Washington State, married to Sierra; they have two children.

Andrew Burton (David's son) – Has one child.

We are really proud of our children.

Grandchildren:

Kori and Mila (Washington State) – We visit them as often as they can.

Aubriella (Indiana) – We adore all our grandchildren.

Education and Training:

Attended Mott College after high school
Returned to college later at Baker College

Occupation:

Began in Retail Management
Later promoted to District Manager

My Life Since High School:

I married in 1979 and had one son. After divorcing ten years later, I moved out of state for my job—first to Kansas, then to Indiana—where I met my wonderful husband, David. We have been married for 20 years.

My Life Since Retirement:

Since retiring, my husband and I have remodeled two homes and spend much of our time helping raise our 7-year-old granddaughter. We love to visit our family in Washington and Michigan.

Favorite Bentley High School Memories:

Participating in sports, especially track and speedball
Great memories with friends

Dave Delling

(1975) 10 Year Class Prophecy

“By 10 years I predict I will be out of Burton for good.”

Spouse:

Melody

Years Married:

40+

Children:

Son and Daughter, both doing great!

Grandchildren:

No grandkids yet

Education and Training:

Finished an apprenticeship at GM (Skilled Trades, specialized in automation and robotics)

Associate Degree and Bachelor's Degree from University of Michigan–Flint

Occupation:

Retired after 45 years in Skilled Trades (Automation and Robotics)

Now build custom walnut furniture

My Life Since Retirement:

Enjoying the hell out of it!

Build custom walnut furniture

Favorite Bentley High School Memories:

Going out on the ice on game night

Standing by the heater by the courtyard in the mornings

Diane Ernst (Greene)

(1975) 10 Year Class Prophecy

"Working as a secretary."

Spouse:

Earl Greene

Years Married:

33 years

Children:

We have 2 sons: Andrew (32) and Travis (31). They are both single. Andrew lives in Los Angeles, CA, and Travis lives in Bedford, TX.

Grandchildren:

I think they are like their mother and father and will give it a few more years before having children.

Occupation:

I am retired but I was in IT Management. I owned Change, Release and Environment Management and the IT Testing Center of Excellence.

My Life Since High School:

I lived in Michigan until 1989 when I moved to Colorado after being presented with a great opportunity. I got married in 1991 and we built a house where we raised our boys and lived until January 2016. I took a new position in February 2016 which moved my husband and me to San Diego, CA, where we lived for 9 years. I retired in May 1993 as I was offered an early buyout and decided to retire at that time. We moved back to Michigan in February 2024 where we are hoping to live for the foreseeable future. I definitely missed the four different seasons. I am happy to be around my family again.

Favorite Bentley High School Memories:

I started at Bentley in my senior year as our family moved here from Maryland. It was hard coming into a new school in my senior year. However, I made some really good friends pretty quickly, which is the best memory I had.

Doug Elkins

(1975) 10 Year Class Prophecy

"Raising a family and working."

Spouse:

Tammy

Years Married:

47

Children:

Michael, age 46 and Jennifer, age 44.

Grandchildren:

Re'Nyjah, Jalen, Brooklyn, Beckham, and Greyson

Occupation:

Retired from GM

Michael Foos

(1975) 10 Year Class Prophecy

"Uncertain."

Spouse:

Maureen Foos

Occupation:

Engineer in the steel industry

Years Married:
38

My Life Since High School:
Lots of business travel

My Life Since Retirement:
Much less travel. Working harder than when I was a working person. Riding the bike, swimming, gardening, cooking, drinking, volunteering. Installed solar panels on the roof, and adding more even as I type (lunch break 😊)

Favorite Bentley High School Memories:
What a great group of classmates.

Rick Fuhst

Spouse:
Marlene Fuhst

Years Married:
37

Children:
Between me and my wife we have 6 boys

Grandchildren:
One granddaughter, she lives in L.A.

Education and Training:
Mott College HVAC and Accounting, graduated with honors

Occupation:
HVAC install, service and management

My Life Since High School:
Started over several times. Checked out northern Michigan and Texas before returning to Burton.

My Life Since Retirement:
Helping a friend restore old cars (1930 and older) and rebuilding a 1966 Chevy Biscayne

Favorite Bentley High School Memories:
Graduating

Dan Gellings

(1975) 10 Year Class Prophecy

"I will be working my way up in an architectural firm."

Spouse:

Kerrie

Years Married:

14

Children:

2 boys, Ken and Andrew both live nearby.

Grandchildren:

7 grandchildren ranging in age from 3 to 14

Education and Training:

B.S. in Architecture

Occupation:

Retired. I still maintain my architecture license.

My Life Since High School:

Obtained a college degree and then worked for 40 years.

My Life Since Retirement:

Took up oil painting and exhibiting at local art fairs and other venues. Also remodeling a couple of cottages up north.

Favorite Bentley High School Memories:

**Lots of sports participation memories. Catching Karen's hair on fire in science lab.
Wearing white pants while helping with set changes between scenes of school play.**



Belinda Gilchrist (Newsom)

(1975) 10 Year Class Prophecy

"I will probably be pulling rotten teeth from peoples' mouths and possibly be married with a couple of big nosed brats."

Children:

Tyler, 36, CEO of Avire.

Alexa and Whitney – identical twins, both Nurse Practitioners (NPs).

Grandchildren:

That makes NINE!

Education and Training:

Dental Hygienist

My Life Since Retirement:

Florida resident for 8 yrs. Moved back to MI 2023.

Mary Beth Gladen (Bottoms)

Children:

1 son: Stuart D. Billey, born 1982 – works at Chevy Truck & Bus

1 daughter: Sarah G. Billey, born 1985 – works at Chevy Truck & Bus

Grandchildren:

One and only grandson: 🧡 Silvon Shelton Carpenter IV, born 2004

Education and Training:

Enough to get in AC Spark Plugs, 1977 😊

Occupation:

Retired

My Life Since High School:

SO many ups & downs but still hanging in there pretty good 😊😊

My Life Since Retirement:

Retired in 2009 from GM with over 32 years. Lost my dad that year, and my mom was still in Florida—wanted to be there whenever possible when she needed me 😊.

She was unable to live on her own in 2016, so I moved her back to Michigan. Still made periodic trips to Florida to her home.

Lost her in 2021 😞. Still make trips to Florida—I always still feel close to Mom and Dad when I do 🌴👨👩👧👦💕

Favorite Bentley High School Memories:

Always loved roller skating at the middle school, square dancing in Jr. High, and driver's training. Loved to play speedball, even if I wasn't real good 🤪

Jeff Glasco

Spouse:

Brenda Glasco

Years Married::

9 years (Married April 2016)

Children:

I have 2 – a son and a daughter.

Brenda has 3 – a son and 2 daughters.

But they are all *our* kids.

Grandchildren:

7 grandchildren – 1 girl and 6 boys, all 4 years old and under.

It is a busy day when they are all together.

Education and Training:

High school. Some college. Studied sound reinforcement and trained as a sound engineer.

Occupation:

Retired UPS employee.

Also an ordained minister, evangelist, and music minister.

My wife and I travel and minister at different churches—from Michigan to Florida and North Carolina to Wyoming.

My Life Since High School:

Worked 34 years at UPS.

Sang with several different gospel groups—most notably the Calvarymen Quartet.

My Life Since Retirement:

I married my best friend and love of my life in April 2016.
Moved to Cass City, MI, after retiring in June 2016.
Began singing and ministering full time in 2019.
Brenda and I also help her son on the farm she grew up on.

Favorite Bentley High School Memories:

Baseball state championship.
Choir, band, and drama.
Football and basketball games.

Debra Godfrey (Cavanaugh)

(1975) 10 Year Class Prophecy

"Retiring."

Spouse:

Single (widowed)

Children:

"I had one child, Robert A Cavanaugh. He was very kind, intelligent, athletic; he loved to play baseball and football. He was also very talented with the violin. Sadly, he was stricken with epilepsy in his early twenties. At twenty-eight he succumbed to a seizure. I was very proud of this young man; I was blessed to be his mother."

Education and Training:

I earned an Associates Degree in Criminal Justice from Mott College

Occupation (Now or Before Retirement):

"I worked as a corrections deputy at Genesee County Sheriff Dept
I also worked at the GM Flint Assembly plant where I retired from 3 years ago."

My Life Since High School:

Married first husband at 21. Don Dawe was a wonderful husband, we were married 10 years. Later I married Mike Cavanaugh and we had one child together. In 2004 Mike passed away due to cancer. I continued working until 2022 when I retired. I continue to live in the same house where Don and I got together in 1980.

My Life Since Retirement:

"Still trying to figure it out."

Cheryl Graczyk (Thayer)

(1975) 10 Year Class Prophecy

“(I will be the number ONE cop on a police force!!). Really, I will be a hard working honest cop.”

Spouse/SO:

Ken

Years Married:

26

Grandchildren:

Having first grandchild in Oct 2025

My Life Since High School:

30 years Retired Army

My Life Since Retirement:

10 years Retired Federal employee

Now a race car driver

Tim Hager

Spouse:

Melinda (Ondovcik)Hager

Years Married:

44

Children:

Two sons – Eric and Matt

Grandchildren:

Three – Jacob (18), Khloe (16), Avery (10)

Education and Training:

Attended Mott Community College

Occupation:

City of Flint Building Inspections

My Life Since Retirement:

Retired 2001, been awhile, did daycare for grandkids - best job ever! We are very close.

Lawrence E. Haw

(1975) 10 Year Class Prophecy

"I will have recently finished law school and am going to work as a tax lawyer."

Spouse:

Dr. Solveig Haw

Years Married:

25

Children:

Elsa Haw – Medical Student, TUM, Post Doc at Children’s Hospital Boston, Harvard

Paula Haw – Division I Basketball, 6'5", 4.0 GPA

Grandchildren:

None

Education and Training:

Western Michigan University (WMU), BBA

Certified Public Accountant (CPA),

Certified Management Accountant (CMA),

Certified Internal Auditor (CIA)

Occupation:

Consultant

My Life Since High School:

Experiential

Favorite Bentley High School Memories:

Sitting behind Nancy Lazar in Ms. Farah’s class and falling out of my chair.

Robin Hemingway (Gilbert)

(1975) 10 Year Class Prophecy

“Sitting on a corner asking for spare change. Then when I get enough spare change together, I’ll be heading for Daytona Beach.”

Spouse:
Tom Gilbert

Education and Training:
Accounting/Consulting

Occupation:
American Express Global Business Travel – Global Account Management and Business Travel Consulting

My Life Since High School:
My first job after high school was at Chevy Truck and Bus. After 3 years, I knew this was not the life for me. No offense. Since leaving Michigan in 1978, I’ve lived in 5 states, was a restaurant owner in Gatlinburg, TN and graduated with a degree in Accounting. After graduation, I started my career in travel, first at United Airlines based out of Denver and retiring from American Express Global Business Travel after 26 years and at the height of COVID.

My Life Since Retirement:
Since retirement, we’ve been living life on Cedar Lake in Greenbush, MI with our two Shih Tzus, Jack & Jill.

Favorite Bentley High School Memories:
I attended Bentley schools from kindergarten through graduation, where I made lifelong friendships. I especially loved band and marching band led by the legendary Mr. Kolbe. I credit Bentley for my love of sports both as a participant and a spectator. It was a great time to be a kid.

Cindy Horvath (Burton)

(1975) 10 Year Class Prophecy

"I will be a world famous medical assistant travelling around the world sharing my knowledge and meeting famous doctors like Joe Gannon of Medical center."

Spouse:
Widow

Years Married:
Would be 39 this year

Children:
1 son – Grant (lives in Ohio with his wife and kids; graduated from Swartz Creek High School in 2000; later joined the Army)

Grandchildren:
3 grandchildren, Breanna 18, Xander 17, and Kady 15

Education and Training:
Associate Degree in Applied Science (Medical Assistant), Associate Degree in Applied Science (Medical Records), Diploma in Practical Nursing

Occupation:
Retired LPN

My Life Since High School:
Attended Baker College in Flint and earned first Associate degree. Started working.
Married first husband in 1980; had my son in 1981; got divorced.
Met my late husband and married in 1986.
Returned to Baker for a second Associate degree.
Bought house in 1997.
I went to Mott for nursing school in my 40s.
Started working at Genesys as an LPN in 2004.
My late husband, son and I had season tickets to the Flint Generals for many seasons.
We attended many sporting events: Detroit Lions, Pistons, Red Wings, NASCAR, and even professional wrestling!!!.

My Life Since Retirement:
Retired from Genesys in 2022 after 18 years.
The first year after retirement was spent handling my mother's estate.
My late husband and I enjoyed gardening, birdwatching, and spending time with grandchildren until his passing in 2024.
Opened a vintage/antique booth in Birch Run in August 2023—was very proud of it, but unfortunately had to close it in 2024.

Sharon Irwin (Allen)

(1975) 10 Year Class Prophecy

"I will probably be in a mental institution after 8 years in a nursery school chasing preschoolers."

Spouse:
Bryce Allen

Years Married:
40 years

Children:
Jennifer (30 years old) – Master's degree in psychology/social work; currently in her final year of a PhD program at Michigan State University

Education and Training:
BA in Education

Occupation:
Retired

My Life Since High School:
My husband has been in retail management our entire marriage, so we have moved a lot—living in Maine, Kentucky, Indiana, and numerous cities in Michigan.

My Life Since Retirement:
Unfortunately, I had to retire from my pharmacy technician/cashier job because of breast cancer surgery and treatment. I have spent the two years since recovering and am now really grateful to be able to be retired and enjoying my free time with my daughter and husband.

Favorite Bentley High School Memories:
By far my favorite memories are of band and marching band.
Bus rides to festivals and marching band events. Mr. Kolbe was the greatest.

Maureen Ives (Lighthiser)

(1975) 10 Year Class Prophecy

“Ten years from now I will be prying a crying child’s mouth open, promising him that the dental floss won’t hurt him.”

Spouse:

Michael Lighthiser

Years Married:

Lots

Children:

Michael

Mark

(“Two amazing young people!”)

Grandchildren:

Eva

Clara

Jacob

Emmett

(“I cannot believe the joy they have brought to our lives. We have had the privilege of watching them grow into the awesome individuals that they have become!”)

Great-Grandchildren:

Maybe we will have them someday!

Education and Training:

Bachelor of Science in Education

Master of Arts in Reading

Occupation:

Teacher at Bentley High School

My Life Since High School:

Between raising a family, going to college, teaching, and having a lot of fun along the way, I managed to stay “somewhat sane!” I consider myself fortunate to have experienced a fulfilling life.

My Life Since Retirement:

I have thoroughly enjoyed retirement so far and hope there's much more to come! Michael and I made a cross-country move to Livingston, Montana, doing what “all the retirement experts tell you NOT to do”—they followed their grown children. It turned out to be a wonderful decision as it allowed us to spend lots of time with our family. We’ve traveled extensively throughout the western U.S. and made several trips to Europe, enjoying the opportunity to immerse themselves in other cultures. We look forward to many more adventures ahead.

Favorite Bentley High School Memories:

Walking around (and around!) the big circle of a hallway every morning with my best friends.

Fran Jerisk

(1975) 10 Year Class Prophecy

“Ten years from now I will be married and raising lots of kids and horses.”

Spouse:

Ian

Years Married:

15

Children:

No kids, but a large assortment of dogs, horses, sheep, and cats over the years!

Grandchildren:

Do lambs count???

Education and Training:

Went back to school in 2007 to get my MSE in Community Counseling

Occupation:

Therapist – after 20 years as a computer programmer, this is my retirement career!

My Life Since High School:

I went to college in Ohio and stayed here after graduating. I miss the clear lakes in Michigan, but we have plenty of rivers here for kayaking and about a gazillion miles of biking and hiking trails. I bought a farm the year I turned 40, and that's a big part of my life now.

My Life Since Retirement:

I retired from being a programmer in 2020 and have been working as a therapist since then, so I'm not really retired. I love what I'm doing, but I'm way busier than someone my age should be!

Favorite Bentley High School Memories:

Class musicals, football games and the marching band, just being around such a great bunch of people! Mr. Herald convincing a bunch of us he'd invented a perpetual motion machine. I'm sure my memory must be mistaken, but I just remember laughing a lot, even in class. I think we had a great bunch of class clowns in our year!

Brenda Jordan Hampton

(1975) 10 Year Class Prophecy

"Ten years from now I will be in Africa (Gambia) putting calamine lotion on my mosquito bites."

Spouse:

Bob Hampton

Years Married:

49 years (Married May 1, 1976)

Children:

We have 3 great sons and amazing daughters-in-law: Rob (Kendra), Ryan (Laura), and Randy (Heidi). I always say these are the best ages and they just keep getting better. Very thankful. Remember, 3 boys—so you know there were challenges, but we loved every minute.

Grandchildren:

We have five grandsons and one granddaughter: Max (14), Jonah (12), Frank & Will (11), Ellie (10), and Caleb (8). They are fun, active in everything, kind and gracious. Love every minute with them!

Education and Training:

Bachelor of Business Administration

Occupation:

After working at Kearsley Community Schools, I worked at UM-Flint and UM-Ann Arbor; my favorite role was completing athlete attestation in Ann Arbor and working with Youth in Transition. It was exciting to have the privilege to aid these young adults as they found their way through higher education.

My Life Since High School:

I have loved every minute of being a mom and grandma, participating in every active year with their many new-found loves while keeping my hobbies and work going. We had fun attending football games and tailgating at MSU with the same people for over 20 years. Traveling with Bob and spending family vacations exploring our wonderful country—we love our National Parks!

My Life Since Retirement:

Since retirement, we have decided to stay in our cabin. Moving from our home to the cabin has been challenging, but we love the area and have made some great friends among the many retirees and “locals.” Never a dull minute, and it is so nice to just pick up and go. We love sitting along Lake Superior and waiting for the northern lights to show.

Cindi Jordan McCoy

(1975) 10 Year Class Prophecy

“Probably still going to college, single and having lots of fun.”

Spouse:

Michael J. McCoy

Years Married:

25

Children:

1 son, Mitchell, owns 3 restaurants in Chicago and one in Los Angeles, California.

Grandchildren:

1 grandpuppy

Education and Training:

Some college, then skilled training in horticulture.

Occupation:

Owner of a landscape company for 28 years.

My Life Since High School:

Raising my son, watching him become a successful and fulfilled man. I've always had a garden since I was a little girl, and I've continued to do so. I began flower gardening when I was 24, and then it became an obsession. When my son graduated high school, I started my own landscape company, Cin's Eden.

**My Life Since Retirement:
Just, NO!**

**Favorite Bentley High School Memories:
Playing speedball with Debbie July, Tina Balla, Chip Bernat, Lori Delaney, Teri Beard, to name just a few, and working on our (always winning) floats.**

Debbie July (Kidd)

(1975) 10 Year Class Prophecy

"I will be on a plane serving people as a stewardess, traveling from one place to another, seeing all the great movie stars like Robert Redford."

**Spouse/SO:
Michael Kann**

**Years Married:
Divorced**

**Children:
I have three awesome sons and three amazing daughters-in-law:**

My oldest Jeffrey and his wife Erin both work for the State of Michigan.

My middle son Gregory and his wife Teresa live in Cumberland, Indiana. Gregory works for Plaque Makers, and Teresa is a Coordinator for the Lighthouse Autism Center.

My youngest Timothy works for Cintas Corporation, and his wife Sarah is the dental office manager at Painless Dental Care.

They definitely spoil me and I am blessed.

**Grandchildren:
I have five grandchildren who are the light of my life and keep me young lol.**

Grace (12) attends Davison, plays in the band, and is a cheerleader.

Chloe (12) attends Goodrich and plays soccer, runs track, and plays softball.

Curtis (10) plays football for Goodrich.

Henry (8) attends Davison and plays soccer and football.

Leonard (4) is my youngest.

Great-Grandchildren:
Too young to have any!

Education and Training:
Medical Assistant

Occupation:
Retired

My Life Since High School:

I started my career at Seely's Drugs and worked there for 5 years. I then was a stay-at-home mom ("domestic engineer") until my boys started school. I worked as a Para-Pro at Kearsley Schools, was a temporary summer worker for GM for 3 years, and then was hired at McDonald Dairy/Dean Foods where I worked for 10 years. Afterward, I took a course in medical assisting and finished my career working at the McLaren Cancer Institute in Flint until retirement.

My Life Since Retirement

After retiring, I sold my home and moved to Mio, Michigan with the love of my life, Mike. I call myself a gypsy, traveling back and forth to visit my grandchildren. In the winter months, Mike and I are snowbirds in Zephyrhills, Florida.

Favorite Bentley High School Memories:
"We were Speedball Champs!"

Rita Kammer (Agar)

(1975) 10 Year Class Prophecy

"I will be living on a farm with a dozen or more horses, my husband and I will both be working."

Children:

Nick – lives in Tucson, AZ; Health Food Supervisor

Chris – lives in New York; Professional Bassist currently playing in the Broadway show

Little Shop of Horrors

(Both are great cooks!)

Education and Training:

I learned everything on the job in IT for 43 years. Received certifications on various systems throughout the years.

Occupation: Retired

My Life Since High School:
Too long to write! Living the dream! Loving life!

My Life Since Retirement:
I am a snowbird and stay in Tucson, AZ for the winter.

Favorite Bentley High School Memories:
Playing basketball

Rick Karrer

Spouse:
Connie

Years Married:
26

Children:
3 — two adults and one 16-year-old adopted (we received her as a newborn. Wow!)

Grandchildren:
3

Occupation:
Retired carpenter/cabinet maker

My Life Since High School:
Up and down and everything in between.

Favorite Bentley High School Memories:
Too many. I'm sure I'll have a lot more after seeing everyone.

Patti Koval (Jackson)

Spouse:
Allan Jackson

Years Married:
16

Children:
Kelly and April

Grandchildren:
Araya, 21
Shiloh, 15
Henley, 8
Kane, 7

Occupation:
Retired

My Life Since High School:
Married, had 2 daughters, moved from Michigan to Minnesota to Montana, got divorced and remarried, moved to North Dakota, and retired in Florida.

Dana LaMotte (Rutland)

(1975) 10 Year Class Prophecy

"I will be raising my little girl and carrying on my duties as a housewife."

Spouse/SO:
Reggie Wellman

Years Married:
Married 4 years (first marriage – divorced)
Married 17 years to Gordon from England (he passed away in 2005)
In a long-term relationship with Reggie since 2006

Children:
Daughter: PerashinaLa ("La") – lives in Harrison, MI on Lake George, age 51; works from home as a Communications CEO for a bank in Woodlands, TX

Stepson: Andrew – age 34, lives in Toronto, OH; works for Gordon Food Service

Grandchildren:
None – just a granddog named Chloe

Education and Training:
High school diploma
Worked 30 years as an Administrative Assistant for Delphi

Occupation: Retired Administrative Assistant (Delphi) – retired for 14 years

My Life Since High School:

Divorced after 4 years of marriage.

Married Gordon from England—were married 17 years until his passing in 2005.

I met Reggie in 2006 and we have been together nearly 20 years (not married).

My Life Since Retirement:

Focused on working out, eating healthy, and living life.

I spend 3 months each winter in Florida at a timeshare with Reggie.

From spring to fall, we stay up north on Lake George at our cottage.

I maintain a home base in Flint, MI; Reggie maintains his in Saginaw, MI.

We enjoy movies, traveling, spending time with friends, and taking life easy.

Favorite Bentley High School Memories:

Having my daughter attend graduation at just 3 months old

Co-op through Atherton Schools that placed me at *The Flint Journal*

Gym class fun—especially dodgeball and square dancing

Didn't participate in many school activities due to being a young mother

Bobbie Jo Laney (Breedon)

(1975) 10 Year Class Prophecy

“After 4 years of hard studying I will have finally finished my food technology courses and have been working for years. Always coming back to see how Mrs. Ellard and her food management kids are doing.”

Spouse:

Dennis Breedon

Years Married:

11 years

Children:

Kyle Perkins, age 40, Kirk Perkins age 38 (daughter-in-law Amanda Perkins)

Grandchildren:

Jaxon R. Perkins, age 10 – plays hockey, baseball, and soccer

Education and Training:

Medical Assistant, Medical Billing/Coding

Occupation:

Medical Receptionist, Rhea Medical Physicians Group / PRN

Nancy Lazar

(1975) 10 Year Class Prophecy

"I shall be in Peru ice fishing while setting up a law practice to help the natives."

Spouse:
George Zachar

Years Married:
40

Children:
Samantha and Adam, 26 and 30

Occupation:
Economist

Teresa Magyar (St. Pierre)

(1975) 10 Year Class Prophecy

"Living the best way possible for Love, Happiness and People."

Spouse:
John E. St. Pierre

Years Married:
48

Children:
Melissa – RN (Cath Lab Nurse); Dan – Research Technical Services Director at Michigan Medicine

Grandchildren:
Evan (10) & Chris (8), both travel hockey players

Occupation:
Retired Greenhouse Manager

My Life Since High School:
Wife, mother of two.
Played women's soccer.
High school and travel soccer referee.
Worked 22 years at Wojo's Greenhouse.

My Life Since Retirement:
Not specifically detailed, but active with grandchildren and family life.

Favorite Bentley High School Memories:
Marching Band

Karen Mattarella (Lepri)

(1975) 10 Year Class Prophecy

"In ten years I will be rich, married and taking care of my ten bambinos."

Spouse:
Louis (Louie)

Years Married:
43

Children:
Three daughters - Jackie (Troy), Kelly (Ryan) Lexi (Nick)

Grandchildren:
Crazy in love with the following little people - Camden (11), Christian (9), Jacoby (8), Georgia (6), Michelle (6), Andre (4), Stella (2)

My Education and Training:
U of M-Flint, Hurley Medical Center School of Nursing

Occupation:
RN

My Life Since High School:
Married and raised my family in the Fenton area.
I was blessed with a wonderful career in critical care nursing for over 44 years.

My Life Since Retirement:
We spend a lot of time at our cottage on Higgins Lake with family and friends. We stay 4-6 weeks in Florida in the winter. I hope to go back to work this fall though - I miss working a lot!

Favorite Bentley High School Memories:

Lots of memories laughing and having fun with friends in class, at games, float building, during lunch and of course circling those hallways everyday lol. Even on the bus I had fun - Philip Paul and I couldn't stop laughing one day and had to sit in the front seat of the bus for a year!! RIP Mrs. Hickey.

Carol Mick (Puderbaugh)

Spouse:

Byron (Rick) Puderbaugh

Years Married:

44 - 45 in November

Children:

Son, and twin girls

Grandchildren:

2 older, 1 toddler and 1 newborn born in June

My Education and Training:

BS from Eastern Michigan University - Social Work/Family Life Degree

Occupation:

Retired now

My Life Since High School:

Husband's job had us move several times - always gaining new friends and experiences along the way. Made Ohio our homebase - but never became a "buckeye" - stayed true to my Michigan roots.

My Life Since Retirement:

Just starting to navigate retirement.

Favorite Bentley High School Memories:

Friends - loved everyone - Band was a very special memory of friends and experiences.

Craig Miller

(1975) 10 Year Class Prophecy

“Preaching in some small country church somewhere in America.”

Spouse:
Kathleen

Years Married:
41

Children:
Rebekah – lives in Pasadena, CA with her husband and three children

Christine – lives in Des Plaines, IL with her husband and daughter

Nathan – lives in the Dallas, TX area with his wife and two boys

(“I’m humbled by the great people my kids have become. I think it’s my wife’s doing. Sadly, they all picked up my sarcasm!”)

Grandchildren:
Six grandchildren ranging in age from 17 to 2

One foster granddaughter, age 18
 (“Can’t get enough of them!”)

Education and Training:
B.A.
M.Div.
Th.M.
D.Min.

(All in theology and ministry-related fields. “That and five bucks will still get me a latte at a local coffee shop.”)

Occupation:
Local church pastor for 40 years
Currently training young leaders in the Middle East and India

My Life Since High School:

I attended college in Ohio, then moved to Southern California where I met and married Kathy, a native Californian. Served two churches in California over 25 years, then served another in Ohio for 15 years. Moved to Texas in 2020 to help care for aging parents and to be close to our son's family. Now happily living in Texas while working overseas about 12–15 weeks per year.

My Life Since Retirement:

Not retired yet—I'm still actively training young leaders abroad, traveling overseas 12–15 weeks a year

Favorite Bentley High School Memories:

Band (mediocre trumpet player, but loved marching, traveling, and euchre)

Choir (a bit better at that!)

Participated in musicals, including *Man of La Mancha* and the school's first musical (thanks to Philip Paul)

Worked on the school newspaper

I'm grateful for teachers who invested in me (Ms. Darby especially, for speech and musical direction)

I appreciate strong community and friendships—I regret losing touch but thankful for the reunion to reconnect

Susan Mossman (Climie)

(1975) 10 Year Class Prophecy

"I will be working in the hospital taking out my frustrations on the innocent patients. I might be married."

Children:

Son: Jordan

Occupation

Nurse (Retired)

Andrew T. Nielsen

(1975) 10 Year Class Prophecy

"I will probably be the next Rich Little or will be singing in a professional barbershop quartet"

Spouse:

Not married

Children:

None

Grandchildren:

None. However, I am a proud uncle and great-uncle. His niece (45) has a daughter (12) and a son (9) and lives in Lake Orion, MI. My nephew (42) lives on Kettering Street in the Bentley School District.

Education and Training:

Mott Community College (Aug 1975 – May 1977), A.A. in General Studies
Michigan State University (Sept 1977 – Aug 1979), B.A. in Elementary Education
Completed 27 credits toward M.A. in Classroom Teaching at MSU Graduate Extension (Flint Southwestern H.S. program), April 1982 – March 1984

Occupation:

Part-time teaching in Flint, Beecher, Lapeer, and Imlay City Community Schools for 13.3 years

Wholesale and retail work for 11 years

One-on-one tutoring for 15 students (grades 1, 2, 4, 9, and 12) in Michigan and Nevada for 7 years

Total employment: 24.3 years

My Life Since High School:

At Mott Community College, Flint, MI, I spent the 1975 Fall and Winter semesters singing in the Mott Community College Choir (directed by Roy Baumgartner). In the fall of 75, I wrote a 52 page family history paper which was one of three selected to be forwarded to the University of Minnesota Library as part of a continuing genealogy study at the Minneapolis campus (there were 35 submitted).

My Life Since Retirement:

(Dec 2009 - March 2020) Volunteered at 4 different Independent Living Centers for Seniors involving "Reading with Andy" lessons. Biographical lessons on historical figures, actors, singers (with music accompanying records) and pictorial booklets I prepared for each lesson. A total of 177 lessons were given at Alterra-Sterling Home (Davison, Mi), Independence Village of Frankenmuth and at Lutheran Independent Living Center (Arden, NC (4 years and 4 months).

Bentley High School Memories:

Missed the bus after a Bentley Varsity Football victory (21-3) at Durand High School. I walked with two other students to a bowling alley to call my dad for a ride—resulting in a 50-mile round trip.

Emily Jane Palka

(1975) 10 Year Class Prophecy

"Walking the jungle paths of Africa."

Spouse/SO:

Dating

Children:

No Children

Education and Training:

7 years of College and University

Administrative Specialist

Job Coach

Occupation:

Office Work

My Life Since High School:

Travelled in many states, went to University, dated but never married. I live in Flint.

Favorite Bentley High School Memories:

My favorite memories are of great teachers who taught well. Sewing class with Mrs.Clark was where I learned to sew. Mr. Moore taught me how to type, which allowed me to work many jobs.

Philip Paul

(1975) 10 Year Class Prophecy

*“Buying Renoirs, driving Rolls, sunning in Spain,
swimming in Tahiti, and changing bulbs on Broadway.”*

Spouse:

Daniel Aiksnoras

Years Married:

40 years

Children:

Luv my nieces and nephews!

Grandchildren:

Luv my great nieces and nephews!

Education and Training:

University of Michigan, BA

Occupation:

Retired business owner – interior design & construction

My Life Since High School:

The summer after graduating Bentley, my sister and I backpacked all over Europe for 5 weeks, staying in youth hostels and traveling on a Eurorail pass. It was a really eye-opening trip and definitely planted the traveling seed.

I started at U of M that fall and majored in theater and also studied Russian for a couple of years. I have to admit that I was pretty immature and got a bit wild with "sex, drugs and rock and roll"!

After college, I moved to New York City to work in the theater as a director. I became very interested in experimental theater and directed a handful of shows but got frustrated by the business side of show biz. At the same time, I had a "day job" and then in the evening worked on various theatrical projects. It was quite exhausting, and eventually I realized I'd like to do something else—like a business.

Through a mutual friend, I was introduced to a talented architect, Dan, and we started a personal relationship and a business simultaneously. We started designing and renovating Manhattan apartment interiors. Our company did everything from demolition to luxury furnishings and we became quite successful. We did this work for over 40 years and retired about two years ago.

Our company handled major residential projects in NYC, Aspen, Paris, Boston, Boca Raton, and Greenwich. Most of our clients were affiliated with Wall Street, but we also worked for several judges, a few celebrities, and many doctors/lawyers.

Sixteen years ago, we purchased a commercial property for our business and operated a group woodworking shop. It was complex, but we met so many talented craftsmen from all over the world—truly memorable!

I had the great fortune of belonging to a Zendo under the guidance of an enlightened Zen master. It profoundly influenced my life, and I've been able to integrate what I learned with my Eastern Orthodox upbringing and Zen Buddhism. I am also blessed to have a great group of friends, and we frequently have dinners at each other's apartments.

My Life Since Retirement:

I've been studying Italian for the last few years and so we travel there every year or so. We have a small cabin in the Catskill Mountains, so we split our time between the country and Manhattan, where we have an apartment in the West Village.

We love working outdoors and on the landscape at the cabin. We recently built a pond and have great plans for building a studio/workshop space where we could "tinker"—sort of the "man cave" idea!

In the City, we love going to concerts, mostly classical and jazz. We also go to theater and dance performances on occasion. We really enjoy living in the City. It was one of those times when you immediately know that you have found your place in the universe.

Favorite Bentley High School Memories:

When I think of all of you, I feel such gratitude. We were really a kind of family!

Generally, I didn't think that our education at Bentley was that good (some teachers were okay though), but the friendships were memorable.

The football games and the field trips to the Fisher Theater in Detroit were always fun. I remember playing in the band and some of the crazy things we did!



Carol Petrick (Kitchenhoff)

Spouse:

Theodore (Ted)

Years Married:

37 years

Children:

Meagan Kitchenhoff Sargent – Police Officer, Collier County

Hannah Kitchenhoff – Bartender at Brown Dog Pizzerias in Telluride, CO (twin sister to Leah)

Leah Kitchenhoff Lamb – Married, bartender at Brown Dog Pizzerias in Telluride, CO. She has a 2-year-old daughter and is expecting a baby boy on September 4, 2025.

Grandchildren:

We were blessed with our first granddaughter- Born May 5, 2023. She will be 2 years young this May. We Love their visits and they Love our visits since they live in Colorado. Hopefully we will have our 2nd grandchild before the class reunion. We know the baby is a boy due September 4th.

Great-Grandchildren:

None yet — lots of years before that will happen.

Education and Training:

AA Degree

Occupation:

Paraprofessional – working with Autistic and Non-Verbal Children

My Life Since High School:

I married Tim Brandt while in high school. We have a son who lives in Heaven. That changed my life drastically. Ten years later Tim and I divorced. We have remained friends along with the Brandt family too. I met my husband, Ted who is a wonderful man of God. We love being parents to our 3 daughters, and now grandparents. Many opportunities came my way to travel. I was able to spend time traveling with all of my sisters and other family members. Along the way, I have enjoyed many adventures.

My Life Since Retirement:

I have not fully retired- tried twice but I believe that my work is not done at the middle school I work at. I plan on retiring at the beginning of June 2025. My daughters and I have traveled to Ireland and France - inspired by my upcoming retirement. I also enjoy keeping up with high school friends on Facebook, especially posts by Bob Walls, since I live out of state.

Favorite Bentley High School Memories:
Football games
Building floats at Vickerman's
Playing speedball
Parties at Tina Balla's and Barrett's house
Watching basketball games
Pep rallies
Graduation

Marilyn Petrick (Martinez)

Spouse:
Just me.

Years Married:
41 years

Children:
3 daughters, 1 son

Grandchildren:
5 grandchildren – *They are all precious*

Occupation:
Retired from General Motors

My Life Since High School:

I now help take care of my two grandchildren (the younger ones). I'm also a Crafter. I make one of a kind chimes and have been doing that for almost 20 years. I love camping, visiting my daughter in California and visiting my sisters in Florida. My husband and I love to fish and camp with the kids and grandkids. We are enjoying life.

Wendy Prine (Sherwood)

Spouse:

Paul Sherwood. I'm widowed as of September 6, 2024

Years Married:

38 years

Children:

Twins. Drew Sherwood Sous Chef at Honcho in Clarkston and Kyle Sherwood kitchen manager in Oxford

Grandchildren:

My beautiful granddaughter is Emma Rose

Great-Grandchildren:

Emma is the love of my life and as beautiful as a rose. She is 8 1/2 years old. We will celebrate her 9th birthday June 16th.

Education and Training:

No college. Learned from working at Hudson's, Marshal Fields and Macys.

Occupation:

Retired from Macy's as a Sales Manager. 1977–2017

My Life Since High School:

Raised a family with my husband. We had twin boys and a beautiful granddaughter. Worked full time at Macy's for 39 years, 3 months and 15 days until my job was eliminated on February 15, 2017.

My Life Since Retirement:

I went on several cruises on the Norwegian Bliss to Alaska with my husband and his first two children and first wife. Second cruise was with mom on the Norwegian Epic to the Virgin Islands. Third cruise on the Norwegian Bliss - trans-Atlantic to Europe. Fourth cruise on the MSC Perosia in Europe (Germany, France, Belgium and the Netherlands) and the fifth cruise on the Norwegian Bliss back home to Florida. The last three cruises were with my husband's first wife and her sister. I love to be on the ships and had a great time. Now that my granddaughter is in school and lives in Oxford I see her on the weekends, breaks from school and during the summer.

Favorite Bentley High School Memories:

Loved being in the concert band, marching band and jazz band with all of the talented classmates participated in all of the events we went to for competition. We had the best time together with Mr. Kolby. Had a great relationship with several classmates—Cheryl Graczyk, Jeff Glasco and Dan Gellings.

Julie Roh (Holovach)

(1975) 10 Year Class Prophecy

“I probably will be teaching a bunch of screaming brats to read and then running home to my apartment and sleeping for the next three days, missing an entire weekend of fun.”

Spouse:

Craig (deceased since 2021 – I miss him every day!!!)

Years Married (if applicable):

I wished for more, but that is not in my control. We were married 40 years.

Children:

2 sons – Steven and Colton. They are amazing!!!!

Grandchildren:

1 grandson, Harrison, who is 9. He makes me laugh every day with the things he comes up with.

Great-Grandchildren:

Probably not ever going to happen in my lifetime, but I can hope I live that long!!!

Education and Training:

Bachelor of Science – University of Michigan

Master of Arts – Eastern Michigan University

Occupation:

I was an educator for more years than I care to think about!!!! I retired several years ago and have enjoyed spending time with my family. I keep myself busy! How did I ever have time to work???

My Life Since High School:

I went to college, got married, had 2 sons, worked, and tried to have as much fun as possible. It's been a great ride!

My Life Since Retirement:

I get up when I want, go where I want, and do what I want.

Favorite Bentley High School Memories:

School was very memorable. We had a great group to spend our teenage years with. I enjoyed the band and choir with Mr. Kolbe and all the events he took us to. I loved the time we wasted walking in circles with our friends every morning.



Joe Ross

Spouse:
Cheryl Ross

Years Married:
46

Children:
Daniell, Jennifer, Carrie

Grandchildren:
Samuel, Nora, Jase, Draven (twins), Rosanne

Education and Training:
AS in Fluid Power, Bachelor Industrial Technology

Occupation:
Engineer, Program Manager, Director Engineering Europe. I lived in Germany for 2 years. Worked at TI Automotive Auburn Hills.

My Life Since High School:
Moved to Tennessee in 2005 for a job. Lived in Germany from 2013–2014 for work. I love it here.

My Life Since Retirement:
Traveling across the U.S. Visiting grandkids in Michigan and North Carolina. Oldest daughter lives in Pensacola, FL; middle daughter in North Carolina; youngest in Michigan.

Favorite Bentley High School Memories:
Football games, speech class as a freshman with seniors, class assemblies, home ec class

Kathy Rouse (Mathews)

(1975) 10 Year Class Prophecy

"I will be teaching in some school."

Spouse:
Steve Mathews

Years Married (if applicable):
46 years

Children:
Jason Mathews. He creates and designs computer games.

Grandchildren:
We have a five-year-old precious granddaughter who loves the outdoors and hanging out with Nana and Papa.

Education and Training:
Bachelor of Science in Physical Education with a coaching minor

Occupation:
Owner of Heavenly Scent Herb Farm

My Life Since High School:
I graduated from Western Michigan.
Got married to an awesome guy, Steve Mathews.
Substitute taught in the Fenton and Linden school systems.
Had one son, Jason Mathews.
Turned one of my hobbies of decorating with flowers into a 36-year career.
My husband and I started a business called Heavenly Scents Herb Farm.
We turned a 120-year-old barn into a shop.
We sold home decor, garden items, bath products, and ran a greenhouse full of herbs and flowers.
We hosted garden weddings and showers for 10 years.
This year we retired after 36 years in business.
Now we can play pickleball, golf, and chase our granddaughter around.
What a blessed life.

My Life Since Retirement:
Just retired (2025).
Turned our greenhouse into a pickleball court.
Golf a couple times a week.
Watch our granddaughter grow up. That's a blessed life.

Favorite Bentley High School Memories:
Playing speedball, basketball, volleyball, and running track.

Nancy Schaffer (Schiller)

(1975) 10 Year Class Prophecy

"I will still be in a classroom but this time as a music teacher."

Spouse:
Lamar Schiller

Years Married:
19 years

Children:
None

Grandchildren:
None

Education and Training:
Bachelor of Business Administration and lots of military training.

Occupation:
Retired

My Life Since High School:
After college at Saginaw Valley, I joined the Army. Served 11.5 years and got out at the rank of captain. I was married for about 3 years when I was in my 30s. Divorced and settled in the Chicago area. I worked in a warehouse at a computer company for 25 years, where I retired in 2020. I married Lamar in 2006 and we live on 5 acres in Woodstock, IL. It's about 90 minutes west of Chicago.

Favorite Bentley High School Memories:
I have lots of fun memories. Besides friends, I especially liked basketball, softball, jazz band, and regular band.

Teri Simpson (Long)

(1975) 10 Year Class Prophecy

“Possibly be working for some dentist somewhere in Flint or Burton. Might even be married.”

Spouse:
Phil Long

Years Married:
49 years (soon to be 50)

Children:
Two daughters
Nicole Lanigan Adams (*lost to the opioid crisis in 2018*)

Jamie Rhynard (*lives in Midland, MI with her husband and 4 children*)

Grandchildren:
Step-granddaughter: Lindsay Lanigan Cochran

Grandson: Casey Lanigan, age 22 – works at UPS

Granddaughter: Raynah Lanigan, age 18 – senior at Swartz Creek High School, attending Adrian College in the fall and will be playing Lacrosse

Grandson: Tucker Rhynard, age 13 – 7th grade at Bullock Creek, plays hockey and baseball

Granddaughter: Averie Rhynard, age 11 – 5th grade at Bullock Creek, plays hockey and softball

Granddaughter: Kennedy Rhynard, age 9 – 3rd grade at Bullock Creek, plays softball and dances

Granddaughter: Cassidy Rhynard, age 7 – 1st grade at Bullock Creek, plays hockey and softball

Great-Grandchildren:
Ayla Rae Cochran – born February 11, 2025

Education and Training:
High school

Occupation:
Worked 4 years for Carmen Ainsworth School District
Worked 24 years for Sorensen Gross Construction as a Project Assistant
Retired in 2021

My Life Since High School:

Raising my children, working, and looking after my grandchildren

My Life Since Retirement:

Following all of my grandchildren with their sports activities

Favorite Bentley High School Memories:

Too many memories to list – but mainly enjoying time spent with friends

Julie Spillane (Kulis)

(1975) 10 Year Class Prophecy

“Still trying to graduate.”

Children:

Andrea is married with 3 children. She is a Clinical Care Coordinator for cardiovascular surgery at U of M. Her husband Drew is an engineer.

Nick is married and living in Arlington, Virginia with his wife Raquel. He works for the Washington Press Club and his wife is a corporate event planner. They have no children.

Grandchildren:

Elliott Rose is 8 years old and in the 2nd grade. She plays travel soccer, golfs, and plays tennis. She loves sports, reading, and anything Harry Potter.

Everett Julieann is in kindergarten. She plays ukulele, dances and loves gymnastics. She is sweet, kind and funny.

Beau Russell is 4. He loves preschool, soccer and baseball. We spend a lot of time together.

Occupation:

Pediatric Dental Office billing department. I retired in 2019.

Mike Stebbins

(1975) 10 Year Class Prophecy

"I should be happily married in a large house with two corvettes in the driveway."

Spouse:
Karla

Years Married:
47

Children:
Matt – married, 5 children, supervisor at GM

Kate – married, 2 children, principal in Goodrich (where she went to kindergarten!)

Grandchildren:
Layla – high school track star, state record holder, will be running at Ohio State next year

Brooklyn – freshman, participates in swimming, golf, track, and soccer
(Both granddaughters are heavily involved in high school sports. We attend as many meets and games as possible—tons of fun!)

Occupation:
Retired GM (Skilled Trades, 36 years)
Farming

My Life Since High School:
We farm a small acreage in Goodrich, selling produce at our roadside stand and enjoying interactions with returning customers year after year.

My Life Since Retirement:
Still farming and wintering in Florida with family

Favorite Bentley High School Memories:
Karla

Marilyn Sutherland (Rykulski)

Spouse:
Edward

Years Married:
I got married in 1983, divorced in 1997. Was single for 16 years and married again in 2013.

Children:
My daughter Samantha is a special needs teacher at Davison High School. She has one daughter who will be 6 in July.
My son Josh is a salesman at Action Sports in Fenton and he has two boys, ages 6 and 17 months.
They both live in the Fenton area.
My husband has one son who is a financial advisor. He opened his own financial business a couple of years ago in Auburn called Polaris. He has three boys, ages 4, 6, and 8.
We are very proud of their accomplishments.

Grandchildren:
We have 5 grandsons and 1 princess—and she is a diva. They are our life!

Occupation:
I was a teller at Genesee Bank for a year after graduating and then started working at AC Spark Plug. I worked there for 30 years and retired in 2006.

My Life Since Retirement:
Spending time with our family is very important to both of us, and it's nice when our adult kids want to hang out with us. My husband and I love to golf and enjoy cruising around Lake Fenton on our pontoon.

Sue VanKirk (Day)

(1975) 10 Year Class Prophecy

"In 10 years I will be in California with Tina, purse on shoulder, living off the wealth of the grocery stores."

Spouse/SO:
Moe Erickson

Lou Anne Vaughn (Bremer)

(1975) 10 Year Class Prophecy

"Living in Virginia with 5 Labrador Retrievers, other various mutts, 3 cats, 2 horses, a few hamsters, 1 baby giraffe, rabbits and an ocelot."

Spouse:
Don / deceased

Years Married:
10 technically, lived together 26 years prior to marriage

Children:
2 step children - raised Don's granddaughter

Grandchildren:
Connor – now 9

Education and Training:
3 years at MSU

Occupation:
Restaurant/bar worker then owner of our own for 20 years

My Life Since High School:
Work and more work. Although I showed Afghan hounds for a hobby/distraction for about 15 years and participated in animal rescue of all sorts. I tried to stick to breed rescue, but it didn't always go that way. I live in the woods also so it seems to be a dumping ground for puppies and cats of all kinds and ages—which inevitably end here at some point—at least temporarily.

My Life Since Retirement: It's just life in the 100 acre woods.

Deana Vinton (Sedlar)

(1975) 10 Year Class Prophecy

"Flying around the world as a career."

Spouse:

Joseph Frank Sedlar Jr.

Years Married:

30

Children:

I have 3 stepchildren from my husband Joe. I claim all of them as mine.

Scott/Margaret Sedlar live in Austin, Texas, giving us 3 grandchildren—2 girls in college and one boy graduating from high school next year.

Danielle/Zach Chludil and their 4 girls (very active in sports—twin 11-year-olds, 1 nine-year-old, and one 19-year-old in college) live here in Chesaning. They own 2 landscaping/nursery businesses together and she serves on the City Council.

Joseph Sedlar III is a nurse practitioner who also serves in the Army and lives near Chesaning. He has 2 boys: one 13-year-old and one 5-year-old.

Together we have our daughter Breanna/Alex Hitsman who live in Linden. She has a Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree and a second degree in Nuclear Medicine. She is currently working at Hurley Emergency Department in Flint and is pregnant with my first grandchild due in June. Her husband works in the medical field also, teaching doctors how to run equipment needed for surgeries, etc. We are so proud of all of them.

Grandchildren:

All of our grandchildren have excelled in school/college curriculums, sports, and are great kids.

Education and Training:

I was hired into General Motors at the age of 19 in 1977, working in 3 different plants as a utility/absentee replacement production worker, on the lines at Fisher Body Coldwater Rd, Flint Truck Assembly, and Saginaw Steering Gear. In 1992, I went on a Tool & Die Making Apprenticeship. I was one of 3 apprentices (1 man and 2 girls) who worked together building dies from blueprints. We were the first apprentices EVER to make 3 dies that produced a perfect part right off the first run in production. So proud.

Occupation:

Tool & Die Maker at General Motors.

My Life Since High School:

At age 18, I married and moved to Germany and lived there for 11 months. Moved back, divorced, and hired into GM at age 19. Went to the 10-year High School Anniversary party and wow was I amazed at a certain gentleman there. He asked if I knew him... I'm like how do I not know him and why don't I recognize him. What a fox, I thought... Jim Smith (lawyer, body like no other and I missed out—he told me he had a crush on me for years. Hindsight... maybe he will be here this time too.

Traveled up to Higgins Lake to see Belinda Gilchrist Newsom with Darlene Bellmore and proceeded to do our award-winning Pom Pom routine on her boat in the middle of Higgins Lake. We did too remember most of it. Great times.

Since I played sports in high school, I continued to play traveling softball until I was 38 years old out in Davison. I have bowled since I was 12 years old and still love to bowl now with an average of 168. I bowled in many city tournaments, pitched softball, took up ballroom dance and competed internationally at Cobo Hall for 2 years taking top places. Bought a travel trailer and continued to camp until 2019.

I have traveled to Mexico, Peru—Machu Picchu, Germany, Hawaii, and other states. Moved to Chesaning in 1995 and started a family. Designed and built my home with my husband in 1998. From the time Breanna was 3 years old I became one of those moms who traveled to dance competitions, Showboat dance competitions, baton lessons/competitions, softball games/tournaments, volleyball games/competitions, basketball games, and 4 proms.

I watched my daughter graduate from Ferris State University in Nuclear Medicine, then again from University of Michigan with a Bachelor of Science in Nursing. I have worked on many events in Chesaning especially while my husband was Mayor for 20 years, worked with the sports boosters dinner dances and the church dinner dances.

Became a caregiver until 2009 to my mother who had MS. I am a grandmother who loves to teach her grandchildren how to swim, play games, and craft. They love their grandma.

My Life Since Retirement:

I retired in 2007. Have had many knee surgeries (maybe too many knee slams in high school cheerleading routines), have had back surgery/fusion, and both hips replaced. Bionic is what I think I am now. My grandchildren always know when it's going to rain by my knees. lol.

I took an Office Manager's job for a friend's assisted living company from 2013–2016 and helped her get a veterans nonprofit off the ground while training in Lansing. I organized the very successful first annual golf tournament fundraiser for the Welcome Home Veterans nonprofit.

I love to put on Euchre tournaments at my home, playing cornhole and horseshoes in the lighted backyard by the campfire. I love to swim in my pool.

Favorite Bentley High School Memories:

My favorite memories were sitting in Typing class staring at Mr. Thompson with all the other girls. Putting on pep assemblies with our national-winning Pom Pom routines/cheerleaders. Became an All County Softball Pitcher 2 years in a row. Dancing at the proms and homecomings. Traveling to Atherton High School for business/marketing classes with Jeff Glasco the second half of the day due to the fact all my credits were caught up so it was a free day basically. Helping build our floats for homecoming and taking 1st place all 4 years in high school. Watching our baseball team take first place...

Kevin West

Spouse/SO:
Connie West

Years Married:
40

Children:
2 boys – Casey and Korey, both are nurses

Grandchildren:
5 grandchildren – 2 girls and 3 boys

Occupation:
Retiring Financial Planner

Favorite Bentley High School Memories:
Sports – winning the State Championship in baseball

Diane Wilson (Stefan)

Spouse/SO:
Mark

Years Married
46

:

Mark Wiltz

(1975) 10 Year Class Prophecy

“Working as a Mechanical Engineer.”

Spouse:

SiYul Oh

Years Married:

7

Children:

Three children - Scott (40), Marissa (38), and Griffen (31)

Grandchildren:

Two grandchildren - Hunter (10) and Emelia (8)

Education and Training:

Michigan State University - Engineering

Occupation:

GE (Power Generation)

Bosch (Automotive Fuel Systems)

WalBro (Automotive Fuel Delivery)

Self-Employed (Engineering/Sales) – Now Retired

My Life Since High School:

Working, Family, Flying, Classic Cars, and Sailing

My Life Since Retirement:

Traveling, Educating myself on new technologies

Favorite Bentley High School Memories:

Sport teams



Mary Zielinski (Unsel)

(1975) 10 Year Class Prophecy

"I will be married with about 4 kids, living on a 150 acre horse ranch with thousands of horses."

Years Married:

Married and divorced

Education and Training:

Bachelor degree from MTSU, Murfreesboro TN

Occupation:

Retired from the United States Postal Service

My Life Since High School:

Married and divorced; traveled to Cozumel Mexico, Punta Santa Dominican Republic, cruised to Hawaii. Traveled to Gatlinburg, Memphis and all over Tennessee. Resided in Lighthouse Point FL and Old Hickory TN; currently just taking care of me and my pups.

My Life Since Retirement:

It's been less than two years, so pretty much taking care of house and yard stuff that had been neglected while working 50 hours a week. Spending time with family and friends and taking my annual trip to Ormond Beach Florida.

Favorite Bentley High School Memories:

My memory isn't that great. Hanging with my friends. Miss Mrs. Ellard's class.

