

Class of 1957 Comments

Comments are from 1957 yearbook in parentheses. Later years - **1982** and **2017**

Robert Aldredge – (Hey “Hankie” got a Kleenex)

Jim Alm – (Why go home now, it is only three!) **1982** - Pine Island Minnesota - Jim was an IBM programmer in Rochester MN. He was married to Martha Hagen and likes fishing and hunting.

Camilla Astrup Bourquin – (A gentle prettiness) **1982** - South Africa -Cam married Ortwin in Oct. of 1968. they have three sons, age 12, 10, and 8. Cam has continued her nursing career and is presently working in a ward for the severely handicapped. Her husband is Chief Conservation Officer.

Connie Astrip Bollman – (Double exposure) – South Africa

Kendall Baker – (Energy and determination accomplish much) - **1982** – La Crosse, WI -Pastor, First Congregational United Church of Christ. Kendall married Sonia Edwards Bell in 1976, enlarging his family of four by another four children. Back in 1957 Kendall's interest was in student council, trumpet, debate, track, and cross country. He received his doctorate from Princeton Theological Seminary June 2 of this year.

2017 -Kendall's bucket list in 1957 was to explore the world lying beyond the borders of Winneshiek County. Today, Kendall wants to outlive his mother and have all his children and spouses outlive him.

Vernon Bakke – (I'd like to be bashful but the girls won't let me)

Dorothy Barnes Esse - (There's a gleam of mischief in her eyes) - **1982** –Grand Marais, Minnesota - Dorothy was a full time wife and mother. Her husband John is a High School Principal. They have a son Tim at the University of Minnesota, a son Tony at the Institute of Technology, and a daughter Joan is still in high school. Dorothy is active in church and community activities.

Kenneth Barnes – (Work fascinates me, I can look at it for hours) -**1982** – Decorah, IA – Kenneth is a farmer and he and his wife Yvonne have two daughters, Beth attends Central College in Pella and Darla is at IA State in Ames.

Milton Barth – (The corn and hogs are my only care) -**1982** –Decorah, IA - Milton is a farmer and married to Ardys in 1960. Their children mark 19, attending the University of IA, Lynn 20 at Iowa State University, Lisa 17, Sue 15, Scott 13, and Michael 11 at home.

Mary Jo Bergsrud Benda – (There is mischief in every good little girl) -**1982** – Decorah, IA. -She and Don have four children. **5/22/2016 Deceased**

Joel (Jody) Bernatz – (I think, I think, more than I think I think) - **1982** –Chelan, Washington - Married Bernice in 1970 and they have a son John. Jody is with the US Forest Service.

Arlene Blegen Sorenson – (To know her is to like her) -**1982**- Cape Girardeau, Missouri -Married Dan in 1964. They have 3 children, Mark 13, Daren 11, and Brent 4. Arlene is a homemaker and enjoys music.

Patricia Blegen Fitch –Decorah, IA – (Her personality won her popularity) - **1982** - Pat is a housewife and mother. She enjoys camping with her husband David and children. She has a son Kevin 24 in landscaping, a married daughter Lorie in Riverside, IA and a daughters Jackie 14, a daughter Patty 13. Pat says she likes to play golf with Karen Noecker and Martha Samuelson **2017** I want to go on a fishing trip to Alaska and visit Maine for Lobsters.

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Donald Brandt – **1982** Ridgeway, IA - Don is a motor grader operator for Winneshiek County. He and his wife have four children including twin sons 20 years old. Back in 1957 Don enjoyed a good time with Ron Drivold, Al Lein, and Jim Carlan. His special interest now is work.

Harley Broadwater – (You never can tell)

Barbara Brunsvold Lundy – (Gentlemen prefer blondes) -**1982** Valley, Nebraska - Barbara married Gordon in 1958 and they have two children.

Gertrude Butler Barth (The first with a diamond) -**1982** Decorah, IA - Secretary at North Winn. School. She and Gordy have four sons, Geoffrey, Timothy, Eric, and Troy, plus a married daughter Suzanne. Back in 1957 Gert was interested in marriage and her new job as a secretary. Now that her family has moved back to Decorah, she enjoys renewing old friendships and putting finishing touches on their new home.

Arlene Christopherson Vauroch (Blonde, free, and , , ,) **1982** Walford, IA – Arlene is a housewife. She and Ron have two children.

Curt Cornell (Quick on the rebound) **1982** Cedar Rapids, IA – Curt is a home improvement contractor. Curt and Marilyn have three sons, Greg 20, Jeff 11, and Kevin 6. They also have two Vietnamese foster sons. In 1957 Curt liked sports and girls. Today he enjoys golf, IA basketball, the Cubs, reading and music.

Ralph Darling **1982** Minneapolis, MN – Ralph and Nancy have daughters Debbie 18, and Shelley 17. They also have a son Brad 15.

Hazel Dahlen Downing (An eye pleaser, so popular with the boys) **1957** Getting married to Dean!! (Good Job, on Sept 27, 2018 we will have been married 60 years!!) **1982** Postville, IA – Hazel's husband Dean owns the buses for the Postville Schools. They have four children including daughter Linda who is a senior in high school. The Downing's have a cabin on the river in Harpers Ferry and enjoy water skiing and fishing. Hazel also likes to refinish furniture, cross country skiing, and crochet. **2017** Staying healthy and doing "things". Keep track of 21 Great Grandchildren!! Go to Miami Florida to visit grandchildren and family for 10 days. Did That!!

Ralph Darling (Darling how could you)

Sharon Delaney Storlie (She shifted her brain into neutral and let her tongue rattle on) **1982** Spring Grove, MN – Sharon is a homemaker, farmer, and mom. She married Llewellyn in 1958. Their daughter Jillellyn is a Luther grad who will be attending law school this fall, Chris 19 is at Luther, and Johnathon 12, and David 10 are in public school. In 1957 Sharon was interested in college, a good suntan, biking, sewing, reading, and music. In 1982 she likes needlework, gardening, reading, and arranging flowers. She doesn't have any special interests that in some way do not include her family.

Carol Dickman Stoen (So far so good) **1982** Decorah, IA – Carol is a housewife and also works in the produce department at Jack and Jill. She married Eugene in 1959 and they have three children.

Donna Dinger Coyle Getting married and having children were on her bucket list. In 2017 – Watching her grandchildren and great grand children grow up.

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David Dunlavy (I am not a musician, I am a whole band) 1982 Ankeny, IA – Dave is a computer consultant. He says he is not married but has a super girl friend, Bev McMann, who has two children, James 6, and Kathryn 4. In 1957 Dave liked cars, girls, band, girls, vocal music, girls, acting, girls, acting up, girls, radio, girls. He now enjoys flying an airplane, the Optimist Club, Masonic Lodge, Shrine, and how to grow old gracefully. **2017** Dave said in 1957 he wanted to stay alive and get out of Decorah. In 2017 He still wants to stay alive.

Mary Ellen Elpert Holthaus (Call a wrecker, quick) - **1982** Decorah, IA,- Housewife, bookkeeper. Married to Willard. Mary Ellen's children are Michael 16, Mark 15, Keith 13, Stephen 12, and Beth 8. **1957** Wanted to get married and have a family. **2017** Wants to live to be 100.

Dale Foltz (Hotrod race? Never) - **1982** Decorah, IA -Dale does sheet metal work for Vicks Heating and Plumbing. He and Arlene have a daughter Diana, employed at Hacker and Nelson, and daughters Kari and Annette both at ISU. In 1957 Dales interests were “The Finks”, cars, and the army. Now he likes camping, motorcycling, and traveling in general.

Wesley Forde (Fords beat 'em all) **1982** Decorah, IA – Lineman for Interstate Power Co. He and Bette have two children, David and Lisa at home.

Karen Freeze Wutzke - **1982** Littleton CO – Karen is a homemaker and mother. She and Robert have two married daughters each with three year old sons. They also have a son in college. Back in 1957, Karen was going to work for the Bell Telephone in Cedar Rapids IA, and looking forward to having her own apartment and being her own boss. Now she enjoys bridge, bowling, church activities, reading, knitting and embroidering.

Ronald Fretheim (In all ways, All American) **1982** -Wayzata MN – Pastor, Peace Lutheran Church in Plymouth. Ron is still interested in sports and music. He plays some slow pitch softball, golf's, and runs a little. He and Karen have two daughters, Kristin 15, and Anne 13. **9/21/2016 Deceased**

Marilyn Fry Thornton (Woman of mystery) **1982** – Minneapolis, MN – Husband Ronald owns a service station in Minneapolis. They have three children. **5/26/1996 Deceased**

Sonja Gilbertson Sersland (Talent plus charm plus pep equals popularity) - **1982** -Monona, IA- Sonja works for an insurance agency. She and Wally have a daughter at Luther and a son at Kirkwood College. They enjoy fishing and hunting, especially with their bird-dog, antiques, work, gardening, puttering around their six acres, planting trees, flowers, etc.

Gretchen Groth Greenwaldt (Be true to your work, your word, your friends) **1982** Rochester, MN – Homemaker. Gretchen and her husband Eldon have a son 16 and a daughter 5.

Martha Hagen Alm (Gym's her favorite subject) **1982**- Pine Island, NM – Martha is a homemaker, married to classmate Jim Alm. She does a lot of gardening and volunteer work with the elderly.

Monte Hanna **2017** I am a long time resident of Bellevue Washington just east of Seattle as Curt Cornell or Jim Lange and others could tell you. I used to come to town almost every fall to visit my mother, but she passed away at Eastern Star last fall, and I expect that was my final visit to Decorah. I hope you all have a swinging party, regards to all, Monte

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Neil Hattlestad (Before I came the world was incomplete) **1982** Huntsville, TX – Professor and Chairman of the Department of Physical Education at Sam Houston State University in Huntsville. Jackie and Neil have a daughter, Heidi 14, and a son Mike 12. Neil's interests in 1957 and 1982 are the same: sports, especially fishing. **2017** Neil said in 1957 he wanted to enjoy life, and now in 2017 he wants to enjoy retirement.

Darrell Henning (I've dug and dug and at last I am through) **1982** Decorah, IA – Curator, Norwegian Historical Museum. Darrel and Rosemary have three daughters: Sarah 17, Gwendolyn 15, and Pamela 13. Darrell's interests have remained consistent – archeology, the world around him, historic architecture.

Mariette Henry Johnson (Sweet sincerity) **1982** New Ulm MN – Mariette's and her husband Ron have a daughter Ann and son Mark.

Barbara Heuser Ramlo (If I had my way) **1982** Oelwein, IA - Barbara is Business Office Manager and Federal Funds Bookkeeper at Upper Iowa University. Her husband Clair is City Building Inspector. They have two sons, one married.

Dagny Hexom Boebel (little lady with big ideas) **1982** N. Manchester, Indiana – Dagny is a college instructor, and Charles have four children ranging in age from 6-19.

2017 – In 1957 Dagny wanted to finish college. She was told college was so difficult she would be lucky to get C's. She wanted to live in a warm place near the ocean, travel abroad, have an interesting job that she loved. and marry a good man who was smart and handsome.

2017 Dagny wants to keep up her lap swimming, move to a warm place by the ocean, (she did that once and moved back to the mid-west), continue traveling.

Paul Hexom (Common sense is not a common thing) - **1982** Dubuque, IA – District Manager for World Book Encyclopedia. Paul married Carol in 1972 and they have two children.

2017 -Paul said that in 1957 he was getting ready to go to Luther College. Today, his bucket list includes staying healthy, start down the road to a smaller home (condo, etc), keep active in social groups and maybe learn a new language. I need to practice up on my Norwegian.

Mary Hovden Teslow (A real queen) - **1982** Decorah, IA - Mary does lab work for Wisconsin Dairies. Children: Curt 22 is in the Air Force in London, England, Keri 21 works in Warrenton, TX, Dawn 19 and Pam 15 are at home.

Ed Hover (Leader of men and follower of women) **1982** Decorah, IA – Ed is a Social Services Director. He and Charilyn have four daughters, Sarah 16, Stephanie 15, Joanna 12, and Jane 10.

2017 Ed had nothing on his bucket list in 1957 but in 2017, staying in good health is on his list.

Carsten Ingvaldstad (His mischievous are like the Mississippi, lined with bluffs) - **1982** – White Bear Lake, MN – Project Engineering Manager, Industries Specialties, Engineering Div. /3M. Carsten and Connie have three children: Cynthia Ann 18, Carsten Patrick 16, and Curtis James 12. Favorite pastimes in 1957 were basketball and girls, basketball and girls and football. He now enjoys hockey, baseball, fishing, camping and canoeing.

David Iverson – **1982** Fort Collins, CO – mobile Home Parks, ranching. Dave and Myrna have five children and three grandchildren. Dave says he used to like girls, cars, beer, and detentions! Now he enjoys family, cars, horses and golf.

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Marlys Jacobson Larson – **1982** Marion, IA – Marlys works at Collins Radio. Her Children are Randy 25, and Kim 22 (Hovey), and Mark 11 and Jason 10 (Larson).

2017 Marlys responded to 1957 bucket list as: Do you really think that I could remember. In 2017 Marlys said her bucket list includes wanting to go to Cape Cod and Nantucket.

Lyle Jacobson (I'll turn over a new leaf) – **1957** his bucket list was to get a faster and newer car. Now in **2017** a trip to California and to Branson are on his bucket list and he **STILL NEEDS A NEWER CAR!!!**

Maryanne Johnson Esgate (She's like an hour glass, makes every hour count) - **1982** Decorah, IA – Deputy in the Winn. County Auditor's Office. Also makes and sells straw Charismas ornaments in shops around the country. She has a son Eric 15/ special interests in 1957 were journalism and music. Special interest today are women's rights, two eleven year old cats (Mietz and Snooks), free lance writing for crafts magazines, hiking and needlework.

2017 In 1957 Maryanne wanted to become a Journalist and see more of the world.

In 2017 Maryanne's goal is to be around to attend the 65 class reunion, staying alive and enjoying life.

Elaine Kirkeby – (Those eyes sparkle just like that diamond)

James Lange (Camera shy) - **1982** Bettendorf, IA – Jim is an industrial engineer with Alcoa in Riverdale, IA. He and Gloria have a daughter Mary 12, and a son John. Jim enjoyed hunting, fishing, canoeing and golf in 1957. Now he likes biking, woodworking and camping.

2017 -Jim said he had no goals in 1957 but today he wants to stay alive and travel.

Kersten Larson (One of our stars, he is out at night) – **1982** Cedar Rapids, IA - Self employed Accurate Bookkeeping Service. Kersten and June have a son Randy 24.

Jim Lee (With his knowledge of rockets, Jim's bound to go far) - **1982** Dayton, Ohio – Colonel U.S. Air Force: System Program Director, KC-135 Modernization. Jim married Charlotte Wilkins (class of '56) and they have four children: Alan 20, Jeff 18, Terry 13, and Vicki 11. His special interests are national defense policy, aviation, motorcycles, and music (church organist and choir director.)

David Lynsch (It's so peaceful down on the farm) -**1982** Decorah Iowa - David farms: married Roselyn Styve in 1960. They have five children. Interested in church and farm organizations.

Norris Lovestune (Oh those curls) **1982** Minneapolis, MN - Norris is a personnel manager. Children are Kevin 19, a student in special Ed at St. Cloud, Jay14 a freshman in high school and Jill 12 starting junior high. 1957 - Norris wanted to see what was on the other side of the hill.

2017 -Today, he is getting back to the side where he started.

Joan Ludeking Reinhart (The harder I try, the gooder to be, the worse I am) -**1982** Pocahontas, IA – Joan lists her occupation as liberated housewife. She and Bob have a 17 year old daughter and 14 year old son. Yesterday's interests included a trip to Europe with Maryanne, actually taken in '59; today's special interests include arts and crafts (oil painting, stained glass, calligraphy), needlework, aerobics, gardening, and ornithology. **2017** – Joan said that in 1957 she wanted to go to college for journalism which didn't happen but the trip she wanted to take to Europe did happen. Now in 2017 she wants to keep moving, always be curious, and travel when possible.

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Leo Macal (Rassler?) - **1982** Denver, IA – Sheet metal, John Deere Tractor Works. Leo and Ardis have two sons. He used to enjoy wrestling and football but now he likes to go fishing. **2017** -Leo said, I want to do what ever my wife wants to do, (which we will do together).

Jerome McCabe (If he is a lifeguard, “Help” I am drowning) **1982** Albany, GA- Housing Inspector, Civil Service. Jerome and Carol have a daughter Catherine and a son Terry. Fun in 1957 was chasing girls, drinking, and just having fun. Now Jerry is active in church activities, B.P.O.E., and likes to bowl, travel, and do carpenter work. **2017** Jerome said that in 1957 he wanted to join the Navy, and see the World which he did. He has visited all 50 states. Today he wants to live long enough to see a great grandchild.

Lynn Moen Nelson Kerkhove (She was cut out to be an angel, but someone ran away with the pattern – **1982** Lynn works as an x-ray technologist. She has two children, one who will be married in September. Lyn married Frank Kerkhove November 28, 1981. She likes to ski, ride horseback, and is busy planning an underground house.

Barbara Abbott Neuendorf (Efficient in a quiet way)

Emmett Nesteby - **1982** Decorah, IA – Works for the IA Dept. of Transportation. He has six children.

Harry Olson (“Try and catch me”) **1982** Decorah, IA – Harry owns the Colonial Kitchen in Decorah. He married Jo in 1974 and has two children.

Thomas Otteson (I'm still learning) - **1982** Decorah, IA – Tom is a farmer. He married Cheryl in 1968 and they have two daughters 11 and 13.

Mary Ellen Palmer Farley (One who has not yet fallen to the wiles of cupid) - **1982** Waukon, IA – Mary Ellen is a homemaker. **2017** – In 1957 getting married was on her bucket list and today she wants to go to Ireland.

LuAnn Peck Haas (A bushel and a peck of fun) – **1982** -LuAnn has three children. **7/5/1994 Deceased**

Kurt Peterson **1957** - Wants a new car. (I can't get up with the sun. I stayed up to late with the daughter) **1982** Oshkosh, WI – Kurt manages a K-Mart. He married Verna Stegen in 1961 and they have two children. **2017** - Wants 2018.

Helen Quandahl McCormick **2017** - Wants to go back to Texas.

Maynard Rauk (They say he likes the girls) - **1982** Lucan, MN – Maynard is operator/owner of Lucan Feed Service and owner of “R & “R Trucking. He has four children: Karlene 20, Jolene 14, Mitchel 13, and Brent 12. He likes golfing, camping, and travel. **2017** – Maynard said that getting out of school was on his bucket list in 1957 and in 2017 he said staying healthy was what was on his bucket list for the 60th reunion.

John Paul Reque – **1982** – Florida – Electrician

Kersten Rocksvold (A fish in the sea of girls, and I always get a bite) - **1982** Prairie de Chien, WI – Kersten has been a Wisconsin State Trooper for 16 years. His wife Karen is an R.N. They have three children: Andrea 17, Tony 14, and Adam 11. In '57 he liked girls and sports. Now he is interested in fishing and golf.

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Nancy Rovang Baker (She's a deep subject) **1957** - Nancy wants to attend Luther College and sing in Nordic Choir under Weston Noble's direction. **1982** – Sedona AZ – Nancy is a psychologist. She has four children. **2017** - They would like to take a Viking Cruise in June/July, up the Western Coast of Norway and back to Scotland and England. Yahoo!! God Willing and the creek don't rise.

Olga Ruen Schroeder (Precision and fancy steps as a baton twirler) -**1982** East Dubuque, IL – Her husband Bob is Shift Supv. at a chemical plant. They have four children and four grandchildren. In '57 Olga liked music and drama. She is now helping to start a new Lutheran mission church in East Dubuque. She likes boating and tennis.

Martha Willson (Contagious laughter) and **Jerry Samuelson** (Cars come first but girls run a close second) – **1982** – Decorah, IA – Jerry farms and Martha is a homemaker. They have one daughter and five sons. In 1957 they were thinking about getting married and raising a family. Now they are “looking for a pot of gold”. Martha likes playing golf with Karen Noecker and Pat Fitch.

Joyce Schneider Medlock (Simplicity is her charm) - **1982** Decorah, IA – Wayzata MN – Joyce and Charles have two children. 1957 - Joyce wanted a job so that she could move away from home.

Reginald Soldwish (At times my memory is sooo bad I can hardly remember my name...(Reginald Von Heine Soldwish) - **1982** Independence, IA – Reggie is a vocational agriculture teacher. He is married to Jan and they have three children. **2/21/2017 Deceased**

Jeanette Spilde Berning (Her ways are pleasant ways) - **1982** Woodridge, IL – Jeanette is a homemaker. She and Bob have two sons: Kevin 15 and Keith 10.

William Spilde (Says little but thinks much) - **1982** Decorah, Iowa – Bill owns the Bright Spot Car Wash in Decorah. He and Nancy have five children: Luann 21, Mark 20, Steve 16, Daniel 14, and Lisa 8. In 1957 Bill liked girls and cars and in '82 he likes polka and square dancing, camping and CLEAN CARS.

Clarence Steele (Silence is golden) - **1982** Glendale AZ – Clarence is a tractor/trailer driver. He is married and has one son.

LaVerne Steele Paidar (Is she not a modest young lady?) - **1982** Mechanicsville, IA – Housewife. LaVerne and John have three children: Daniel 9, Pamela 15, and Valerie 11. LaVerne is a ceramics teacher, an Elder in the Presbyterian Church, a Camp Fire Leader, Sunday School Superintendent, and teacher, Chairman of the Board of the Cedar County American Cancer Society, is active in local clubs and enjoys rosemaking, amateur oil painting and china painting.

Darlene Stinson (Bubbling laughter) – **2017** Darlene said they would not be able to be in Decorah at that time. She will be thinking about us and told us to have a great time.

Karren Strand Evans (You don't have to hang from a tree to be a nut) - **1982** Emerald, WI – Karen married Roy in 1973. They live on a big old farm with lots of cats. **1/22/2003 Deceased**

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Vernida Tekippe (I'd like to be a man hater but I haven't the heart) - Vernida said that she wanted to become a nurse. After 5 children, she went back to school and became that nurse. She said she loves every moment of nursing. She and her husband want to travel and will be going to China on March 24, 2017. They plan on downsizing and moving.

Elaine Teslow Meyer Fairfax, IA – Elaine is a homemaker. She and Ken have four children: Pam 18, David 13, Jon 9, and Alicia 5.

Janet Teslow Funston (Good natured, good sport, and full of fun) – **1982** Cedar Rapids, IA. Janet works as a bookkeeper/secretary. She and Stan have three children and Janet enjoys aerobic dancing and genealogy.
10/5/2007 Deceased

Linda Thomas (Pretty as a picture and nice frame too)

Cheryl Thompson Lengundoro (Did you say a dance, I'll be there) **1982** - Iowa Falls, IA – Cheryl is a homemaker. Her husband Gerry is a teacher and coach at Iowa Falls. They have two children in college. Cheryl says that with a husband and two sons involved in sports all year round, she is usually at one athletic event or another. She enjoys crafts of all kinds and caring for small children. She is involved in various local organizations.

Marlene Vine Thronson (I think I need a chaperone) - **1982** Grand Prairie, TX. Marlene was a Hospital Sales Specialist for Miles Pharmaceuticals selling hospital antibiotics. She has a son Terry age 20 going to school in AZ. Now as well as in '57, she enjoys having a good time. She likes oil painting and traveling.
2017 My bucket list is staying healthy and the status quo is perfect for me for as long as it can last.

Carol Weigle McRae (Montovani, my love and I) - **1982** Vancouver, WN – Carol and her husband moved last fall from Alaska to Washington state. Her daughter Lisa, who has been going to school in Alabama is now working in Alaska. Son Craig will enter college in Vancouver this fall. Carol is working part-time and likes the climate in Washington. 1957 - On Carol's bucket list was college and nurses training but instead became a registered Xray Technician. **2017** Carol wants to travel but realistically hopes for enough income to last to the end.

Darrell Winkie (I'm taking my time but I will get there) - **1982** Decorah, IA – Darrell works for KDEC Radio in Decorah. He and Jolayne have a daughter Kim 16, and a son David 11.
In 1957 Darrell hoped to stay healthy and that is still on his bucket list today.