



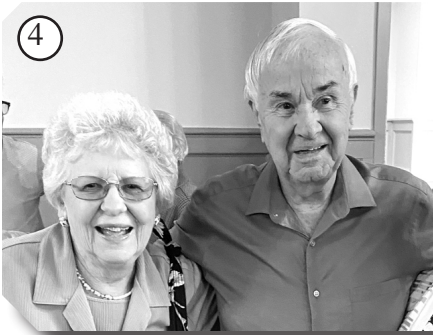
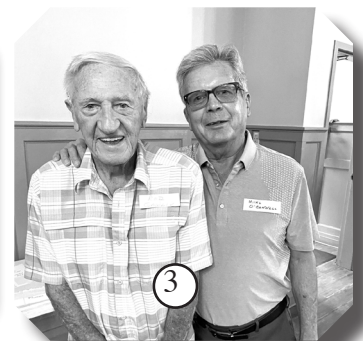
NEWSLETTER of the Joliet Township High Schools

RETIRED TEACHERS

Vol. 63 - September 29, 2023

The Joliet Township High School Retired Teachers held a reunion on May 21, 2023 at the Joliet American Legion Post 1080. Paid reservations for 37 were received (\$444.00), 25 people attended. The cost of the buffet was \$350.00, cost of the hall rental was \$200.00. There were additional contributions of \$112.00 and the "profit" of the occasion of \$6.00 will be deposited in the mailing account.

Among those attending were Connie Kozikowski, a miracle survivor of over 2 ½ years of pancreatic cancer treatment. Ron and Carol Martin traveled the furthest from their home in Lawrenceburg, Kentucky. Rod Gawlik who, in his nineties, was the oldest one attending and Jerry Johnson, in his seventies, was probably the youngest one there. Those who attended had a good time mostly catching up on the lives and happenings of their old comrades and all in attendance had a chance to relive the good times of their tenure at JTHS. Even as our group ages we look forward to being able to continue with these reunions.



1. Gail Bato, Nicki Alander
2. Connie Kozakowski, Alice Henderson
3. Ron Gawlik, Mike O'Connell
4. Carol Martin, Chuck Baker
5. Ron Martin, Mike O'Connell, Tina O'Connell
6. Kathy Ghilain, Russ Ghilain

7. Gail Bato, Kay Crandall, Phil Staley, Marcie Staley
8. Vince McGirr, Angie Burke
9. Dianne Marchetti, Carol Martin

Deaths

• **Robert “Mickey” Beach**, Born March 23, 1939, passed away June 2 2023. “Mickey” Beach, a well-known educational figure for well over 40 years, passed away after a very short illness at the Hope Hospice House in Cape Coral, Florida. Mickey was 84 years old. He grew up on a farm in Gosport, Indiana. He often joked about the happiest day of his life was the day his father sold the farm and the dairy cattle. Mickey is survived by his devoted wife Molly Alkire Beach of Terre Haute, Indiana where they met as students at Indiana State University. They were married in 1962 and have 5 children and 5 grandchildren. He received his B.S. and M.S. from Indiana State University and received his Doctorate at Indiana University. He studied further at Northern Illinois University, the University of Chicago, the National College of Education and Ball State University. He was also a proud and devoted member of the Iota Epsilon Chapter of Lambda Chi Alpha. Mickey began his career in education as a teacher and coach at the Martinsville School System in Martinsville, Illinois and then moved to the Vigo County School Corporation where he was a teacher and coach at West Vigo High School in West Terre Haute, Indiana. From there, he was a Counselor at the Atterbury Job Corps Center for two years. He moved into an administrative position at 28 years of age at the Joliet Township High Schools in Joliet, Illinois; a school system in which he worked for the next 26 years in various administrative positions and retired from JTHS as an Assistant Superintendent of Schools for Personnel and Community Services in 1993. In 1993, he was named Superintendent of Schools for the Lake Ridge Schools System located in unincorporated Gary, Indiana, a position he held for over 13 years as he dedicated much of his life developing and changing many lives until he retired in 2006. He was also a Professor at Chicago State University for many years and was briefly the CFO of City of Gary, Indiana as well as a Chair of the Educational Committee of the Urban League of Northwest Indiana. Mickey loved boating, fishing and hunting for mushrooms. He had an infectious smile and laugh and took great pride in carefully making exaggerated boating moves that threw riders off his tube named Big Bertha that he pulled behind his boat.

• **Jeannette Franklin** passed away peacefully on July 4th, 2023. She was born on November 22nd, 1941 in Lockport. Being an educator at heart, after college Jeannette began working as an English teacher at Joliet Township School Central Campus. There she also held the positions of guidance counselor, assistant principal, and Principal all before the age of 45. Throughout her 35+ years career in education, her work took her to administrative positions in Rockford, IL, Atlanta, GA, and Las Vegas, NV. Jeannette LOVED to read, shop, and travel but most of all, she loved her family.

• **Ford Chester “Chet” June** passed away peacefully at home on August 23, 2023 at the age of 77. Chet was preceded in death by his loving wife Judy and parents Ford C “Bim” June Jr. and Lorraine “Dolly” June. Chet was born in Ipswich, MA. on July 14, 1947. The family later moved to Elwood, IL., and then to Joliet. Chet attended JTHS and was moved to JTHS-West Campus when the schools were split in 1964. He was in that school’s first graduating class in 1965. He graduated from Monmouth College in 1969, and then attended the University of Iowa College of Law, graduating Juris Doctor in 1972. He was a founding partner of the law firm of June, Prodehl, Renzi & Lynch, LLC, from 1986 until his passing. Chet was a member of the Joliet Township High School District 204 Board of Education from 1993 to 2011. He was President of

the board 2009-2011. He was an Elder at First Presbyterian Church in Joliet from 1986-1991. He was member of his high school cheer-leading squad (said he could do a “round off”). A proud member of the JTHS and West Bands and of Sigma Phi-Epsilon Fraternity. Chet was a very social person who could start a conversation with anyone, and usually would.

• **Carol J. Terlep** - Born: April 24, 1932 in Mokena, IL. Died: August 19, 2023 in Joliet, IL. A beloved Wife, Mother, Grandmother and Great grandmother passed away peacefully surrounded by her beloved family at home on August 19, 2023. Carol graduated from Joliet Township High School in 1950. She worked as a secretary for H. B. Marxer in Chicago, raised her family, then ultimately retiring from Joliet Township High Schools, working in the Principal and Superintendent’s offices at Joliet Central. She was Vice President and Secretary of Marty Terlep and Associates Inc. She was called “Chief” affectionately by her husband. She took care of everything, from minor maintenance repairs, shopping, lawn cutting, gardening, doctoring, cooking, baking, (her fabulous rhubarb custard pie), finances, listening, teaching, and solving problems, all to keep the family running smoothly.

• **Cecilia Ann Trizna-Vargo**, 85, of New Buffalo, Michigan passed away on Monday, August 21, 2023 at Aperia Care in Michigan City, IN. Cecilia was born on April 12, 1938 in Joliet, IL to the late Joseph and Cecilia (Branchaw) Trizna. In August of 1985 she married Nandor (Ned) Vargo; he preceded her in death in November 1998. Cecilia was Dean of Students at Joliet West High School, retiring in 1992. She enjoyed reading a good book and was a Friend of the Library-New Buffalo, MI. Cecilia also was an avid sports fan, especially of the Michigan Wolverines and the Chicago White Sox.

And Finally... Signs from the Roadside in Colorado.

Never Trust a Train. They have Loco motives
Do gun manuals have a troubleshooting section?
Tried calling the Tinnitus helpline. No answer just
kept ringing.
Before the crowbar was invented crows had to drink
at home.
Norwegian ships have bar codes so you can scan da
navy in.
If you hate speeding tickets raise your right foot.
Do memory foam mattresses wish they could forget?
Break-in at the Apple store. Police looking for iWitnesses.
It was me. I let the dogs out.
To some marriage is a word. To others it’s a sentence.

The next issue of this newsletter will be published at the end of January 2024. It will only be available in a PDF version on the JT Web page or mailed to those without internet access who have requested hard copies.

Alice Henderson
3205 Willardshire
Joliet, IL 60431
(815) 436-5418
Cah3205@aol.com

Dean Sayles
2618 Old Woods Trail.
Plainfield, IL 60586
(815) 267-7911
deansayles@comcast.net