



September 2020



!!! Important Message from David Dibb, our directory keeper: !!!

"Dear Friends,

Since our 15th Reunion in 1975 (before email and cell phones), a handful of our classmates have dedicated themselves to locating and staying in contact with as many of our fellow graduates as possible. As technology has changed, the format of the contact information has changed, but we currently have a Directory of about 450 men and women in 27 states, Germany, England, and the District of Columbia that we graduated with from Waco High School. That list is continually being updated, especially now, as the Reunion Committee attempts to contact everyone, and are finding some situations have changed. I have recently taken responsibility to enter updated information in the "Master Copy" of the Directory, which I receive periodically from that handful of classmates who are still keeping up the contact work. We would like every one of you to have a copy of this contact info for your old classmates. If you would like a copy printed and placed in a notebook and mailed to you, just send me a check for \$4.00 (printing supplies and postage), and I will print the most current version and send it to you by return mail. If you would like a copy emailed to you (attached as a pdf file), just send me an email and ask for it. If you are planning to attend the reunion in October, there will be an updated copy there for you."

David Dibb

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Florence, SC 29506

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A Bit of Trivia:

Some lines that were not written into the script but improvised by the actor/actress:

"You're gonna need a bigger boat". Jaws 1975

"You talkin' to me?" Taxi Driver 1976

"Mein Fuhrer! I can walk. " Dr. Strangelove 1964

"Everyone wants to be us". The Devil Wears Prada 2006

"Take the cannoli." The Godfather 1972

"Molly, you in danger girl." Ghost 1990

"I'm the king of the world!" Titanic 1997

"I'm walkin' here!" Midnight Cowboy 1969

"Here's looking at you, kid." Casablanca 1942

Remarks on Jim Woodson's talents:

Penne Percy Peacock: "Wow! Fabulous!"

Larry Thomas: "That's an amazing talent from our class."

Bev Murphy Wells: "Jim Woodson is a phenomenal talent! Really enjoyed his film and interview and was mesmerized by his ability to bring to life landscapes from his perspective! Would love to visit one of his galleries one day especially in New Mexico! His pencil drawings were extraordinary! Quoting Jim, "Buy art!"

Judith Hamff Murphy: "Thanks so much for posting the link to Jim Woodson's amazing new works. What a treat! You're certainly right--Jim's wonderful art calms your soul and offers serenity in these trying times. Where's my RV when I need it for a trip to northern New Mexico!"

Sharon McCarthy Odell: "I thoroughly enjoyed Jim Woodson's virtual art show. His landscapes are absolutely breathtaking!"

Tommye Ruth Blair Toler: "Quite impressive."

From Our Graduates:

Bob Easter: "Randy Turner was much too Timid in his story. He is a genius at putting real estate deals together. He earned respect from Bankers, Private Investors, Buyers and Sellers across the Country for figuring out how to structure a project. His success is much greater than he let on. Randy and I were not friends in school but have grown close over the years in real estate discussions. He is a friend for life to so many in our class."

Kay Phillips Sparks: "I especially liked Randy Turner's explanation of his memories of Waco and why he enjoyed driving around."

SuEllen Golden Wilson: "It was so much fun to read about Randy Turner and his wonderful life after graduation from WHS. Randy is one of those great guys that everyone liked no matter his age. I agree with Randy that Baylor was the perfect place to find a lifetime mate."

Bev Murphy Wells: "Thank you for sharing the birth of the Town Crier and to the many who worked diligently through the incubating years! A special thanks to Jeanne who shared her dream of keeping us all connected! It was a joy reading about Randy Turner's "show and tell" and his melancholy perspective of "Our Town"! Stay well, keep safe!"

Tim Lasseter Latta: "Wish I had gone to junior high in Waco. Just like Mayberry."

Updates:

Correct address for **Larry Thomas:**

283 Cheyenne Drive

Fairview TX 75069

214-499-2090

Ambrosio Silva: Please in the future, all emails need to go to: sambrosio194@gmail.com

A Neat Idea:



Ladder Garden

If you are short on space for your patio or garden, here is a neat way to show off some of your plants. Get an old stepladder, place some wooden boards/planks across the steps and Voila! You will have space for lots of flowers and plants.

September Birthdays:

- 3- George Compton
- 6- Shirley Joy Rogers Keele
- 9- Mary Beth Cash McMahon
- 12- Linda Shelby Lyons
- 15- Bev Mruphy Wells
- 26- Dana Sauer Keifer
- Bill Alexander

**It's like being 16
again
Gas is cheap and I'm
Grounded.**



Chinky (Armead) Johnson



1960



current

What a treat this month to hear from Chinky, especially with the COVID-19 so much in our current affairs. Chinky was an immunologist although she said she worked more with transplantation than immunity to disease. Talk about an exciting life after high school, though--- Chinky has lived it! This is such an interesting read of such a rewarding career and Chinky tells it beautifully in her own words. The influence of her work has been most helpful to the medical field. I think you will be amazed at her expertise, her travels, and her energy, not to mention her ingenuity of how she got a post-doctorate fellowship at Duke. Enjoy! I feel sure you will be impressed!

After Waco High School

University: After graduating from Waco High School, I attended The University of Texas in Austin. I began my studies in two very different directions, science and interior decoration. I do not remember now why I changed to science only, except that my mother wanted me to major in a subject where I could always get a job. My major was in medical technology in the College of Natural Sciences. This degree required one-year of study in a hospital laboratory accredited course. There were not many options to choose from then. I chose Charity Hospital in New Orleans. In June of 1963, I moved to New Orleans with two friends from The University. After completing the year of school in New Orleans, I graduated from The University of Texas and then returned to New Orleans to work. This time I lived in the French Quarter which was a fun place to live as well as being close to Charity Hospital where I had a job. I worked in the Blood Bank. One of my favorite jobs in the Blood Bank was to identify the specificity of antibodies that were the cause of a positive crossmatch. Identification of the specificity of these antibodies allowed one to select units of blood that might be used to transfuse the sensitized patient. This work with antibody identification in the Blood Bank is what first sparked my interest in immunology and genetics. After about one year of working, I decided to do something that my father had talked about since I was a child but which we never had a chance to do, spend extended time in Norway. [My father's parents were from Norway and immigrated to Waco in the 1890s.]

Europe: I moved back to Waco in order to work and save money to go to Norway and Europe. Jan Massey was in or around Waco at this time, and she decided to accompany me to Norway. We expanded our plan both to travel around Europe and to work in Norway. With the help of my Norwegian relatives, we were able to get work visas. In 1966, we flew from Dallas to NYC to catch the Queen Mary to England and then travelled on through England and Scotland to Bergen, Norway. While in Bergen, we arranged our jobs, myself at a hospital Blood Bank and Jan at the University of Bergen Earthquake Station as a programmer. Before starting to work, we traveled through the Scandinavian countries. This included a trip on a ship up the coast of Norway, all the way to the northern-most city, Kirkenes, and back to Bergen. "Europe on \$5 a Day" had just come out. We managed to spend only \$5 per day not counting the cost of our car rental.

Back in Bergen, we needed to rent an apartment but were dismayed when we found out that the process required that you advertise in the newspaper that you wanted to rent and people replied by letter to you at a postal box. I could write a comedy about the places that we examined. Luckily, a relative's mother-in-law was going to be out of town for 6 months and offered to rent her two-bedroom house. It was located at the top of a hill at the end of a fjord. The view was a beautiful. But in the snow and ice of winter, it was frequently a challenge to walk up. (We were there October-March.) The road up had several switchbacks. It took 15-20 minutes to walk up on a good day. Children skied down from in front of our house. Taxis refused to drive up so we had to meet them at the bottom of the hill. Living in Norway was one of the best things I ever did. I am still close to family there and visit frequently. Jan adopted my Norwegian family and returned to visit more frequently than did I. In April, Jan and I left Norway. First, we went to Germany then to Switzerland where I wanted to ski. Then, again using "Europe on \$5 a Day", we toured the southern part of Europe plus Greece, Jordan and Egypt. After 3-4 months, we ended our travels in England.

Graduate Education and Career: I had always considered going to graduate school in microbiology. So, upon returning home, I applied to several graduate schools in Texas. After being away for a year, I wanted to be near home. All graduate study in microbiology at the time was in medical schools. I chose Baylor Medical School in Houston. During my first year in graduate school, several things occurred that greatly influenced me and my career. The chairman of microbiology had just moved from Harvard with several infectious disease experts. Also, Michael DeBakey began doing kidney transplants at Baylor, and Denton Cooley did his first heart transplant at St. Luke's hospital. A tissue typing laboratory was set up at Baylor and transplantation became a major focus, both for the medical school and for me. To me, many of the things that I had liked about blood banking were reflected in principals used in the tissue typing laboratory. Thus, I decided to do my dissertation research in the transplant and tissue typing laboratory with the immunologists. For my dissertation, I developed a sensitive crossmatch test to determine whether the transplant patient had antibodies directed toward the tissue antigens on the organ to be transplanted. This test became the principal crossmatch procedure used in tissue typing laboratories across the United States to determine whether a recipient could be safely transplanted with a kidney from a given donor. It was the test of choice by laboratories across the United States for approximately 20 years until new technology became available. While finishing my dissertation, the department hosted a visiting professor from Duke, Dr. Bernard Amos, who was a world expert in immunogenetics and transplantation. I decided that I wanted to do a post-doctoral fellowship with Dr. Amos at Duke and tried to find time to talk with him during his visit. However, he was always surrounded by people. A friend gave a cocktail party so that I could talk with him, but he was still stormed by people. Therefore, I offered to drive him to the airport so that we could be alone and talk. He brought along a colleague who also was going to the airport. They talked mouse genetics the entire time. I felt defeated. But as Dr. Amos was exiting the car, he asked me if I wanted to come to Duke for a fellowship. I said, "Yes!" He said, "Call me when you are ready to come so I can allocate funding" and ran to catch his plane. And that was how I ended up at Duke for 9 years. The immunogenetics system being studied at Duke was the Histocompatibility Complex which is comprised of tissue antigens or Human Leukocyte Antigens (HLA). HLA antigens stimulate rejection of a transplanted organ. At the time, that is all that we knew that they did. One of the goals in the field at the time was to characterize these HLA antigens in populations around the world. To that end, researchers went into isolated areas of the world to test divergent population groups to determine the extent of diversity among world populations. On one trip, I found myself performing HLA testing on the porch of a hacienda and sleeping in a hammock in the jungle of Venezuela. It was exciting times in immunogenetics, and Duke was a great place to be. Dr. Amos's laboratory was one of the top 8-10 human histocompatibility centers in the world. Many top scientists visited and gave lectures. During this period, earth breaking discoveries were made around the world that allowed scientists to understand how an immune response is triggered on a molecular level. It turned out that the HLA antigens that we had been studying for transplantation were actually *the key player* in the initiation of an immune response. They were not there just to frustrate transplant surgeons! After nine years at Duke, I accepted a position with an immunogenetics group at Georgetown Medical School and moved to the Washington DC area.

At Georgetown, I continued to study HLA antigens, their genetics and their association and role in various diseases. Much of the work was done in collaboration with clinical investigators at the National Institutes of Health. In addition, I was the Director of the Tissue Typing/HLA Laboratory for the transplant service at Georgetown Hospital. One of the research studies in which I was involved was "Acquisition of Immunity to Malaria in Cameroon." For 5 years (1994-1999), we had a research laboratory in Yaounde, Cameroon. We set up a laboratory in conjunction with local professors, public health workers, graduate students and technicians. Since a member of our team from Georgetown frequently was in Yaounde for extended periods of time, we rented a house. Living in Africa for 4-6 weeks at a time was both fascinating (the markets, the culture, the villages) and frustrating (lack of current news in English, intermittent electricity, intermittent water). The quest to understand malarial immunity and to develop a vaccine was not, and has not, been successful. After many years of study, by ourselves and many others, immunity to malaria is not understood. Immunity to malaria is not long lasting, and no universally effective vaccine has been produced in 20 years. Thus, one needs to realize that understanding protective immunity to an infectious agent is complex and, indeed, not always possible. That being said, viruses are less complex microbes than malaria parasites and, hopefully, an effective vaccine for the corona virus can be produced quickly.

If you like to travel, one of the pluses of being an immunologist is that there are international conventions every year. At these conventions, one learns the latest research on a subject and networks. While this could be done anywhere, immunologists have always picked interesting cities to host the meetings (London, Paris, Budapest, Berlin, Munich, Vienna, Helsinki, Aarhus, Rome, Tokyo, Sydney, Vancouver, San Francisco, Boston, New York). Yes, during the convention you are inside a hotel in meetings/talks from 9-5 or longer. But in the evenings, there is time for good restaurants and good conversation, frequently with colleagues from the area who know the city. In addition, often friends and I added a long weekend visit to an area near the convention city.

Retirement: In 2004, after 23 years at Georgetown Medical School, I retired early. In 2013, I moved back to Texas and am living in Austin. Several friends had already retired and funding for research was getting harder and harder to obtain so I was ready. (From funding at 28% of grants submitted to funding less than 10% of grants submitted.) Jeanne asked me if I missed work. Sometimes. I particularly miss the graduate students. And at this point in time, I miss not being able to participate in studying the immune response to COVID-19. But I absolutely love retirement. Among several renewed interests, I have embarked on the study of a totally different subject, the art history and archeology of the Mayan civilization. Ancient civilizations, and the Maya in particular, fascinated me even as a child when I thumbed through National Geographic. But while working, I had no time to study any subject other than immunogenetics and immunology. Now I do. There are some wonderful courses at The University of Texas which I audit. One of the professors leads study tours to archeological ruins of Mayan cities in Guatemala and Mexico. I have been on eight trips with him so far. Plus, I have more time to visit with friends, time to read books, time to take long walks, time to fill as I wish. I also have more time to travel.

North Carolina Beach House 2000



Norway hiking 2016



Forbidden City, Beijing, China 1984



Taj Mahal, India 2015



Cambodia 2017



**Research lab on patio
Venezuela 1976**



**Road to San Bartolo murals,
Guatemalan jungle 2018 (8 hour drive)**



Yaxha, Guatemala 2013



**Tikal Temple III, Guatemala
2009**

Alsek River trip, Alaska 2015



Colorado River rafting 2008



Students and technicians in Georgetown T-shirts at Immunology Research Laboratory, Yaounde, Cameroon 1994



50th reunion 2010



50th reunion 2010

May 30, 1957

Jackets Journal

West Junior High School



SENIOR WILL

Kay Albright wills all her extra freckles to John Martin.
Noah Appleton wills all his bad teachers to Eddie Robnett.
Patsy Balch will all the paper in her locker to Allan Henry.
Jane Berry wills her bobby pins to Gloria Telfair.
Phyllis Brooks wills her Latin Book to Jane Saunders.
Steve Brown wills all his books to Eddie Robnett.
Bonnie Burson wills her algebra notebook to some fortunate 8th grader.
George Compton wills a "trained" mosquito to Mr. Gillenwater (Orville by name).
Dolores Clifton wills her backless locker to Anedith Bond.
John Davis wills all Mr. Moore's jokes to next year's Student Council.
Sharla Dockery wills her handleless locker to some "fortunate" 8th grader.
Panzy Donaldson wills her white lace petticoat to Marilyn Cooper.
Frankie Du Pre wills her needle nose to someone in the 7th or 8th grades with a pug nose.
Gwen Ewing wills her Spoogleville accent to Bill Williams.
Jack Ewing wills Lee Moe the Duck to someone who likes fish.
Amy Eyssen wills her Latin book to Carole Cook.
Joel Ezar wills his good sense of humor to Miss Emmons.
John Ferguson wills some of his weight to Chuckie Flood.
Carol Fisher wills her acting ability to Mike Fisher.
Janell Gooch wills her fish net bracelet to Pam Prickette.
Linda Hardwick wills her P.E. locker to Judy Wardwick.
Susan Harkness wills her Alice Lon petticoat to Mrs. Parker.
Rex Heeseman wills his good attitude grades to Nick Colias.
Jennie Hill wills her dirty P.E. clothes to Jo Ann Mallory (if she can find them).
Jeanne Holland wills her long fingernails to Carole Cook.
Chinky Johnson wills her good eyesight to Penny Murchison.
Hariadene Johnson wills all her tardy slips she has collected in the last three years to Mr. Moore and Mr. Bracken.
Howell Johnson wills his ability to do yells to Gerald Glenn.
Martha Lacy wills her Spanish book to Donna Fadal and Judy Wood.
Betty Luedeker wills her blonde hair to Martha Ezar.
Alice Luevano wills her figure to Mary Lou Tijerina.
Sharon McCarthy wills all her good times at West Junior to Carol Phipps.

May 30, 1957

Jackets Journal

West Junior High School

Malcolm Maness wills his astronomical knowledge to Mr. Knipper.
Jack Martin wills his N.A.A.C.P. pin to John Martin.
Jim Maxwell wills his figure to Jack Garrett.
Leon Meadows wills his algebra grades to Bobby Little.
Marsha Mixson wills her D in homeroom to Chuckie Flood.
Martha Mull wills second chair clarinet to Sharon Woodall.
John Mullen wills Mrs. Parker's music to anyone who wants it.
Tommy Niles wills his D's and E's and Miss Emmons to Jerry Niles.
Mary Pack wills her choir robe to Jeanette Rowan.
Susie Rangel wills her math book to Irene Duron.
Virginia Rangel wills her like for algebra to Linda Braddock.
Maxine Reppold wills her chair in English to some draft resistant person.
Gary Roberts wills his chair in back of room 208 to some "lucky" person next year.
Jerry Rowan wills her ability to say poems to Jeanette Rowan.
Mary Ann Shilling wills her E in homeroom to La Vonne Goodnight.
Nancy Stiteler wills all the food in her locker to Judy Jolley.
Lyda Stodghill wills her chair in the back of the room in English to any talkative 8th grader.
Hilda Vela wills her figure to Rosalie Rodriques.
Sandra Wooten wills her strong voice to Jo Etta Bain.
Sue Golden wills her hair to Pam Precikette.

Betty Vaughan & Amy Expen

SENIOR PROGRAM

M.C.: John Ferguson.

Processional

Invocation: Verse Speaking Choir

Soloist: Gaolyn Corbin

Joan Allen Joan Beaty

Bonnie Burson Martha Campbell

Jerry Rowan Jo Rene Patterson

Chinky Johnson

Scripture: Verse Speaking Choir

Soloist: Joe Riley

Anne Kimbriel

Betty Barkley

Diane Cameron

Sharon McCarthy

Clara Sue Griffiths

Martha Lacy

Jack Martin

Rodney Sommer

Waymon Little

Jim Maxwell

Allan Myers

Gwen Ewing

Speakers:

Marsha Mixson-"Quo Vadis"

Hugh Wilfong-"Gift That Is In Thee"

AWARDS

Citizenship

Betty Buckler

Travis Lawson

Betty Vaughan

Rex Heesoman

English:

Hariadene Johnson

Joe Riley ✓

Certificates: Mr. Bracken

Special Music: Mixed Chorus

Benediction: Howard Dudgeon

JOKES:

**IF LIARS PANTS
REALLY DID CATCH ON
FIRE, WATCHING THE
NEWS WOULD BE A
LOT MORE FUN**

**SOME OF YOU ARE TOO
YOUNG TO KNOW WHAT
IT FEELS LIKE TO TAKE
A TON OF PICTURES
THEN HAVE TO WAIT
TWO WEEKS TO FIND
OUT THEY ALL SUCKED.**

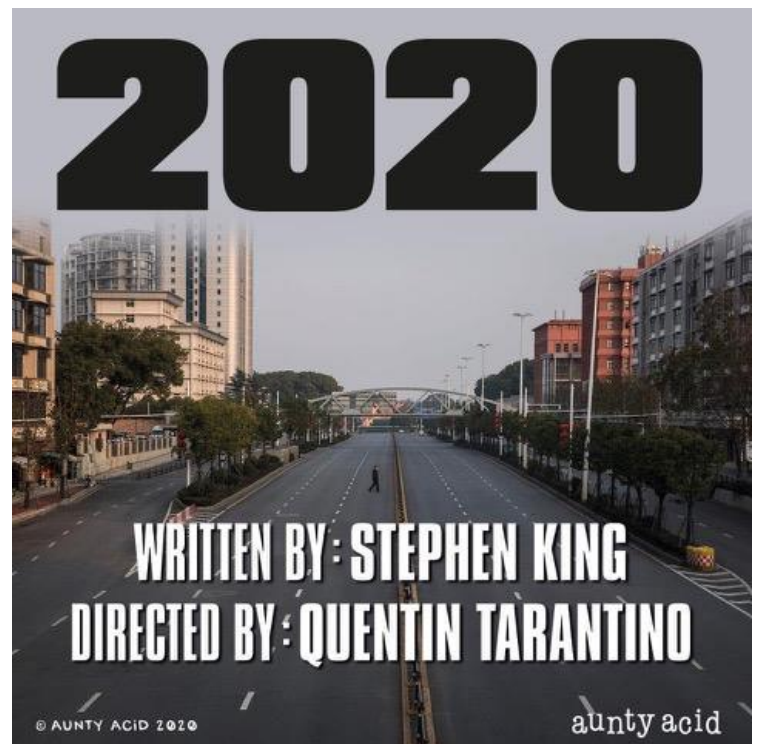


**Be good to your spouse.
Remember, right now they could
poison you, and it would be counted
as a COVID death.**

**MY WIFE JUST STOPPED
AND SAID,
"YOU WEREN'T EVEN
LISTENING WERE YOU?"

I THOUGHT...
"THAT'S PRETTY WEIRD WAY
TO START A CONVERSATION."**





www.whs60.org