

# September 2024

## **From our Graduates:**

**Mickey Lavy:** (on meeting famous people): Mickey said he has met famous people right here in Waco's own backyard.

(a) "Coach Sauer was a very famous coach at Baylor (and Athletic Director until 1960) and went on to be head coach of the New York Jets including Joe Namath, a world-famous quarterback for the Jets. The first date I had in Waco was with his daughter (Dana).

From

We both were in North Junior High, and we went to a party of some sort. My mom drove us there and brought us back."

(b) "Everybody (almost) in Waco remembers U.S. Ambassador Lyndon Olsen, Ambassador to Sweden. Olsen is of Swedish descent. He was also chairman of the Texas State Board of Insurance and President of National Lloyds Insurance Company."

(c) "Penny Percy Korth Peacock was appointed US Ambassador to Mauritius by George H.W. Bush in 1989-1992."

(d) "Benny Bradshaw was a classmate of ours who passed away at a young age. His sister is married to a former state representative, Kip Averitt, a man famous in Central Texas. And I know Kip."

...AND...do not forget Mickey said he ate with Elvis in George's not too long ago. Well, at least Mickey said it looked like Elvis—he had black hair and wore dark sunglasses.



**Bev Murphy Wells:** Regarding the storm Debby in Florida:

"Where we are in The Villages, mostly pounding rain, high winds, tornado and flash flood watches. Not sure about others along the west coast and in central FL.

Debby's landfall occurred in Steinhatchee, FL due to continue on to Georgia and Carolinas. Will deal with power outages, high winds,

continued rain, high river levels, flood issues all week. New moon relates to high tides.

It usually rains once a day during the summer somewhere in The Villages (TV). The interesting thing about TV, all electric lines are underground, and rainwater goes through canals into ponds that are regulated to water the golf courses where and when needed.”

## **UPDATES:**

**Ralph Sparks-** (whs '59 and hubby of Kay Phillips Sparks) , recently fell and fractured a hip. He was in the hospital for several days but has now been moved to a rehab facility in Waco.

**Betty Luedeker Gatlin:** Betty Reports on her grandson, Nathanael Gatlin, who was electrocuted:

“Nathanael has had about 10 surgeries, so far. He still cannot put any weight on the pelvis or hip for at least another month. He lost his left hand, and a hole was blown out of his left foot (exit point). They are trying to save the big toe. He had surgery on the foot last week and it has to be elevated for 13 days. He has been a real trooper and has constant support from his mother and big sister. The father and other big sister have returned to work, but they visit Nathanael as soon as they can on the weekends. Nathanael's big brother has returned to College Station for his senior year. It is going to be a long process so please, keep the whole family in your prayers. ”

**This poor dear boy! No one can possibly imagine the pain and suffering he is enduring. The whole family's life has been altered.**

**Norma Cissell Smith**- Continue to keep Norma and her family in your prayers during their difficult time. I have been told Wayne takes Norma to the beauty shop weekly, which always makes any woman feel better.

**Linda Phelps McKee**: There will be a Quarterly Luncheon in October. The date and place have not yet been decided but you will be informed when things have been finalized.

### **SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS:**

3	George Compton
6	Shirley Joy Rogers Keele
9	Mary Beth Cash McMahon
15	Bev Murphy Wells
21	Pat Payne
26	Dana Sauer Keifer, Bill Alexander

### **Regarding Sammy Owens:**

(Sammy was married to 1959 WHS graduate, Charlene Landfried, who died in 2019)

**Sharon McCarthy Odell**: “So sorry to learn of Sammy’s passing.”

**Gwen Ewing Hodges**: “Condolences to all who loved him .🙏



**Clara Sue Griffis Arnsdorff**: “Yes. I remember Sammy. Think he went to Sanger Ave Elementary too. Our class gets smaller and smaller.”

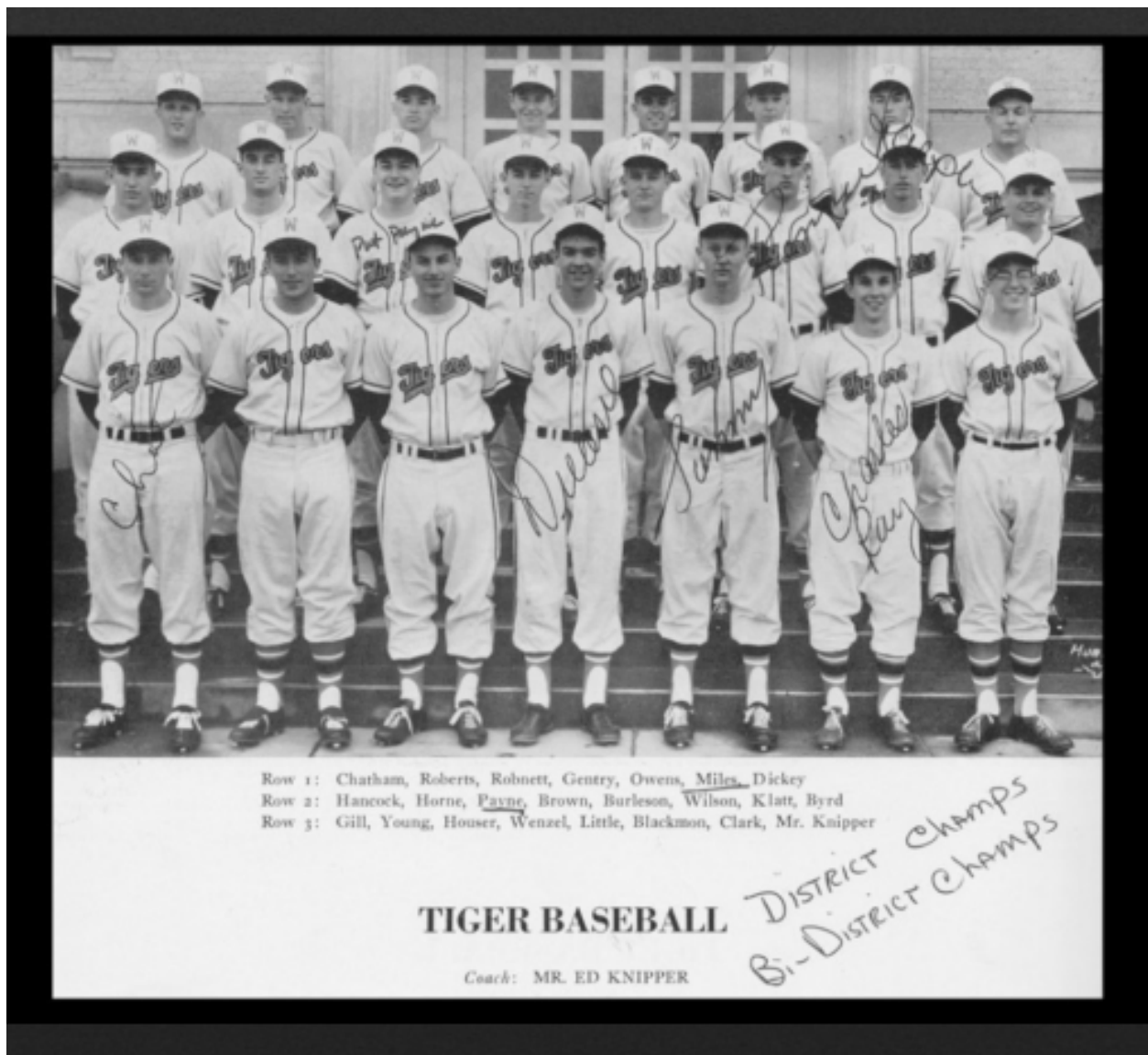
**Betty Luedeker Gatlin**: “So very sorry to hear about Sam.”

**Bev Murphy Wells**: “Sincere condolences to Michelle and family for their great loss of Sammy, their father, grandfather, loved one. Knowing his life was full with family, service to our country, work,

sports, and other interests contributes to his choices of living a well-rounded and enjoyed life. Thoughts and prayers for all.”

**Pat Payne:** “After learning of Sammy’s death I found this picture of our baseball team. Sammy, Charlie Chatham and others have passed away.”

sidenote: (Sammy is 5<sup>th</sup> from the left, first row. Others who are deceased are Charles Ray Miles, Scott Horne, Darrell Gill, Mr. Knipper.....)





**Howard Dudgeon**: **Three of Howard's favorite dance scenes in movies are:**

**John Travolta/Debra Winger**- they dance the 2 step in **Urban Cowboy**--**Bing Videos**

**sidenote:** (I lived in Odessa, Texas for 20 years and can vouch that the cowboys really do the 2-step with their hats on while the girls hang on to their belt loops while following their lead).

**Kris Kristofferson/Isabelle Huppert** -they dance to "Ella's Waltz" in **Heaven's Gate**--**Bing Videos**

**Al Pacino/Gabriel Anwar** - they dance to "Por Una Cabeza" in **Scent of a Woman** -- **Bing Videos**

**Howard Dudgeon**:

"I haven't fired a gun since the late 1960s, but I was at two shootings in one week in the 1980s.

I used to eat at Lake Brazos Steakhouse every Wednesday after work and La Fiesta every Saturday at 5:00 PM.

One Wednesday I was leaving LB and a young woman and man pulled up in a Volvo. The young man jumped out of the car and said someone call 911. He went in and called. I looked into the car and the young woman had passed out and had blood on her. She was the driver. It turns out that she was a stripper at the Showtime Club on LaSalle. She had tried to buy some marijuana. Two dealers had

gotten into her car and got into an argument. They pulled their guns on each other and accidentally shot her. She died. The other drug dealer came to one the hospitals the next day with a bullet wound.

The next Saturday (the day after I went to La Fiesta), I went to Richland Mall. I went in on the Sears end. When I entered, there were a bunch of kids running towards me. I heard several buzzing sounds as they passed me. I walked around the mall and back by the Sears end entrance were the Waco police. I asked them what was wrong and they said there had been shots fired there 15 or 20 minutes before.

That made me wonder if buzzing that I heard were shots. I didn't hear anything that sounded like gunfire."

### **A NEAT IDEA: For Hanging Pictures:**

**Make a layout with paper and painter's tape before making any holes in your wall.**



**If you want to take a trip to Europe but want to avoid the long travel and expense, think about visiting these US towns:**

**Solvang, CA**- offers a touch of Denmark with windmills, bakeries, and wooden storks (symbol of Danish good luck). It was established by the Dutch and is home to a replica of Copenhagen's Little Mermaid statue.

**Leavenworth, WA**- gives one the ambiance of a Bavarian Mountain village in Germany. For 3 weekends each year, Leavenworth experiences their own form of "Octoberfest".

**St. Augustine, FL**- was founded by a Spanish admiral so it offers a Spanish feel of old-world Southern Spain. It happens to be the oldest city in the US.

**Frankenmuth, MI**- is known as "Little Bavaria" and has the largest Christmas store in the States. The name of the town was derived from settlers who originated from the Franconia Bavarian province of Germany.

**New Orleans, LA**- gives the experience of a Creole twist of France--founded by the French with French and Spanish architecture and cuisine.

**Holland, MI**- has a Dutch heritage and offers a yearly May Tulip Festival. Unfortunately, there was a fire which destroyed many of the original buildings of 1871, but the tulip fields are beautiful! In December, the old historic Mill features a music and light show with thousands of LED lights.

**Charleston, SC**- gives an old-world European feel especially of France and Spain with its antebellum architecture and elegant plantations.

**Fredericksburg, TX**- is a community that is steeped in German History and style.

**Vail, CO**- is an Alpine-like experience of the Swiss or Austrian Alps, especially if you like to ski.

**Lindsborg, Kansas**- is known as "Little Sweden USA". In 1860, Swedish families made their home here. It shows an abundance of Dala horses which in the late 1930's became the sign of Sweden. Lindsborg offers festivals with music, dancing and crafts.

**Alys Beach FL**- sometimes referred to as the Greek 'Mykonos twin'.

**Tarpon Springs, FL**- is heavily influenced by Greek culture, food and architecture.

**Pella, Iowa**- was established by immigrants from the Netherlands and is known as 'America's Dutch Treasure'. It has a replica of a 19<sup>th</sup> century canal. Pella holds a spring festival which offers tulips and much of the Dutch culture. It was also the childhood home of Wyatt Earp.

**Helen, GA**- used to be a logging town but in 1960 took on a Bavarian theme. After 1969, every building must use a Germanic design. Helen holds Oktoberfest, Alpine Fest, and Volksmarch celebrations.

**New Glarus, WI**-Founded by the Swiss, this town offers some Swiss chalets, a Swiss Historical Museum, and a brewery. Each August, the town celebrates Swiss Independence Day with Swiss Volksfest featuring yodeling and alphorn playing.

**Carmel-by-the-Sea, CA**-Occupied by the Spanish and Spanish missionaries from 1603-the 20<sup>th</sup> century, it is easy to see why some call it a "fairytale village". A retreat for artists and creatives, it has a European vibe.

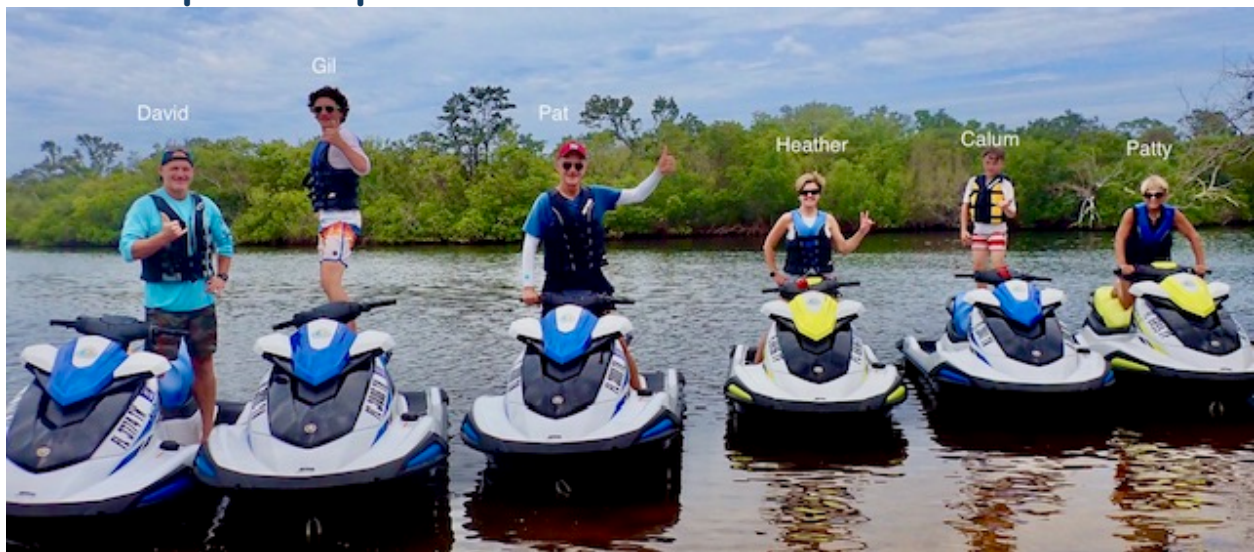
**Galena, IL**- has cobblestone streets and European-style historic architecture. It is famous for being the home and workplace of Ulysses S Grant prior to the Civil War.

Venice, California- with its canals, arched bridges, and gondola rides---truly has the flair of Venice, Italy.

## **PICTURES:**

Pat Payne and Patty: Jet Skiing in Naples with son David, his wife and two sons-

One can truly say Pat is enjoying life!! And Naples looks like the perfect place in which to do it!







**Sharon McCarthy Odell**: Sharon said she is "one proud Grandma". She has just returned from Charleston, SC after attending the White Coat ceremony of her grandson, Dylan, who begins his journey toward becoming a neurosurgeon. He is a member of the 200th anniversary class of Medical University of South Carolina (MUSC). The school opened in 1824 and Sharon said tuition at that time was only 5 cents. The MUSC is one of the oldest continually operating schools of medicine in the United States and the oldest in the Deep South.



**HUMOR:**

**I ACCIDENTALLY WENT GROCERY SHOPPING ON AN EMPTY STOMACH AND NOW I'M THE PROUD OWNER OF AISLE 4.**

My wife and I decided to never go to bed angry. We've been awake since Tuesday.

**I'M THINKING BACK TO WHEN "A NEW HIP JOINT" MEANT SOMEPLACE I WANTED TO GO ON FRIDAY NIGHT.**

I took my suit to the cleaners, who wanted to charge me \$40, so I gave it to the charity shop next door. They cleaned and pressed it and put it in the window. I bought it back for \$15.

My wife said: "That's the 4th time you've gone back for dessert! Doesn't it embarrass you?" I said: "No, I keep telling them it's for you."

She said she missed me. Normally that would be good but she's reloading.

My wife and I started role-playing in the bedroom. Her favorite is The Sexy Librarian where I have to sit quietly while she reads a book.

Yesterday I bought a world map, gave my wife a dart, and said, "Throw this and wherever it lands, I will take you on vacation." We're spending 3 weeks behind the frig.

## **WHY MEN ARE HAPPY PEOPLE:**

Your last name stays put.

The garage is all yours.

Wedding plans take care of themselves.

Chocolate is just another snack.

You can never be pregnant.

You can wear a white T-shirt to a water park.

You can wear NO shirt to a water park.

Car mechanics tell you the truth.

The world is your urinal.

**You never have to drive to another gas station restroom because this one is just too icky.**

**You don't have to stop and think of which way to turn a nut on a bolt.**

**Wrinkles add character.**

**Wedding dress - \$5,000. Tux rental - \$100.**

**People never stare at your chest when you're talking to them**

**New shoes don't cut, blister, or mangle your feet.**

**One mood all the time.**

**Phone conversations are over in 30 seconds flat.**

**You know stuff about tanks.**

**A five-day vacation requires only one suitcase.**

**You can open all your own jars.**

**You get extra credit for the slightest act of thoughtfulness.**

**If someone forgets to invite you, he or she can still be your friend.**

**Your underwear is \$8.95 for a three-pack.**

**Two pairs of shoes are more than enough.**

**You almost never have strap problems in public.**

**You are unable to see wrinkles in your clothes.**

**Everything on your face stays its original color.**

**The same hairstyle lasts for years, maybe decades.**

**You only have to shave your face and neck.**

**You can play with toys all your life.**

**One wallet and one pair of shoes - one color for all seasons.**

**You can wear shorts no matter how your legs look.**

**You can 'do' your nails with a pocketknife.**

**You have freedom of choice concerning growing a mustache.**

**You can do Christmas shopping for 25 relatives on December 24 in 25 minutes**

We offer three kinds of service:

**GOOD - CHEAP - FAST**

You can pick any two

**GOOD** service **CHEAP** won't be **FAST**

**GOOD** service **FAST** won't be **CHEAP**

**FAST** service **CHEAP** won't be **GOOD**

UNION SIGNS

**A person with  
a sharp tongue  
will eventually  
cut themselves.**

~ J. Robson Koenig

I legitimately have no idea what anybody under 30 is saying anymore.

How beautiful it is  
to find someone who  
asks for nothing but  
your company.

Brigitte Nicole

[www.whs60.org](http://www.whs60.org)