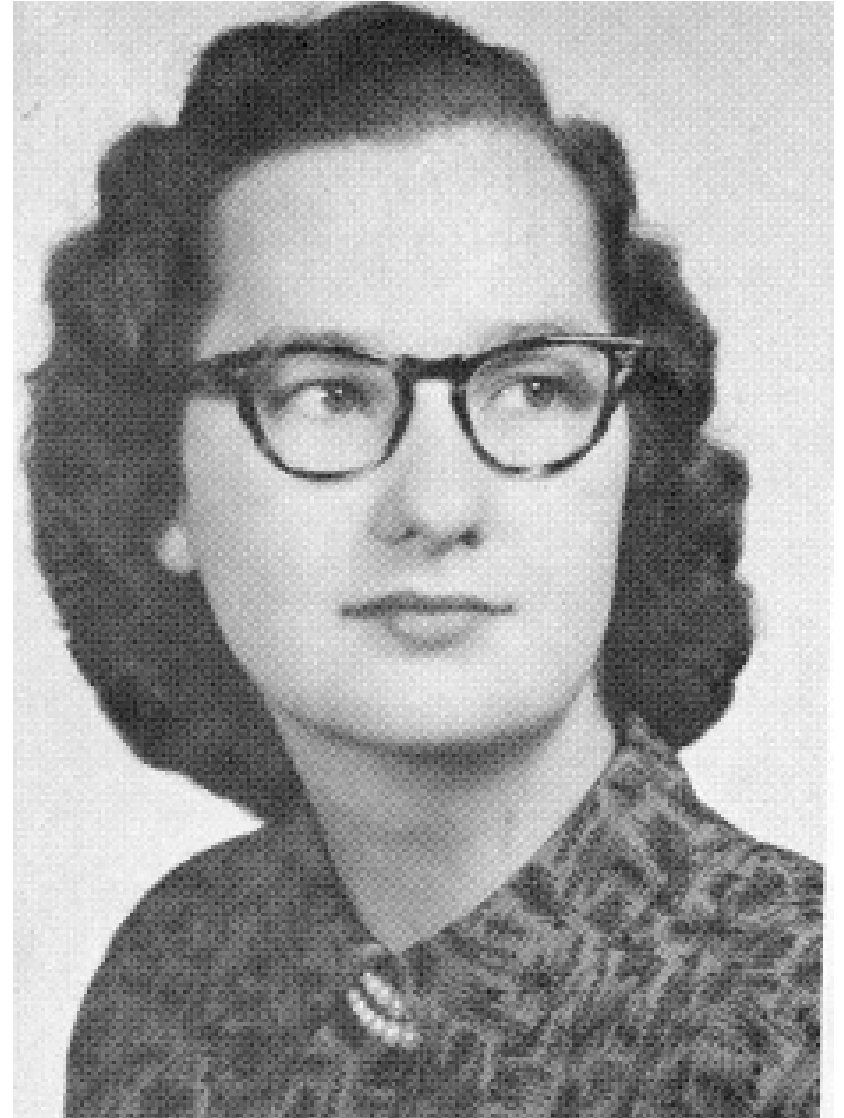


# **Corunna High School**

## **Class of 1953**

**Updated 5-30-2021**

**Patricia M. Austin**



**1953**

**Gary W. Bedford**  
**5-11-1935**  
**Deceased 12-23-2007**



**Nanita ...**  
**3-5-1966**

**1953**

**Gary W. Bedford**  
**5-11-1935**  
**Deceased 12-23-2007**

**Nanita ...**  
**3-5-1966**

**Major Gary William Bedford**

Age 72, retired United States Air Force, of Rogers, Ark., passed away Sunday, Dec. 23, 2007, at St. Mary's Rogers Memorial Hospital in Rogers, Ark.

Major Bedford was a pilot for US Air for 26 years.

A memorial service will be held at 11:30 a.m. Thursday at Stockdale Funeral Services in Rogers, Ark., with Pastor Bob Ryan officiating. Military Honors will be provided by the Honor Guard of Northwest Arkansas.

Gary was born May 11, 1935, in Detroit, the son of Gayle E. Parmenter and Stanley O. Bedford. He was a graduate of Corunna High School and Michigan State University.

He was a member of the United States Air Force and the West Virginia National Guard for more than 20 years. He was a board member with the Highway 94 East Fire Department, and also a member of the American Legion.

Gary and his wife had lived in the Northwest Arkansas area for about 10 years, after moving from Maryland. He enjoyed all aspects of life. He was also a board member for the Adult Development Center in Rogers for several years.

Survivors include: his wife, Nanita "Nita" Bedford, whom he married March 5, 1966, in Maryland; one sister, Sharon (Herb) Brehmer of Bath; niece and nephew, Amy Holmes and Craig; and great-niece and nephew, Gayle and Eric.

He was predeceased by his parents.

Memorials may be sent to The Adult Development Center of Rogers, Ark., or The American Cancer Society, Arkansas Division.

All cremation arrangements were made under the direction of Stockdale Funeral Services of Rogers, Ark.

Online condolences may be made at [stockdalefuneral.com](http://stockdalefuneral.com).

**Jo Ann Braid**



**Jerry Bradford**

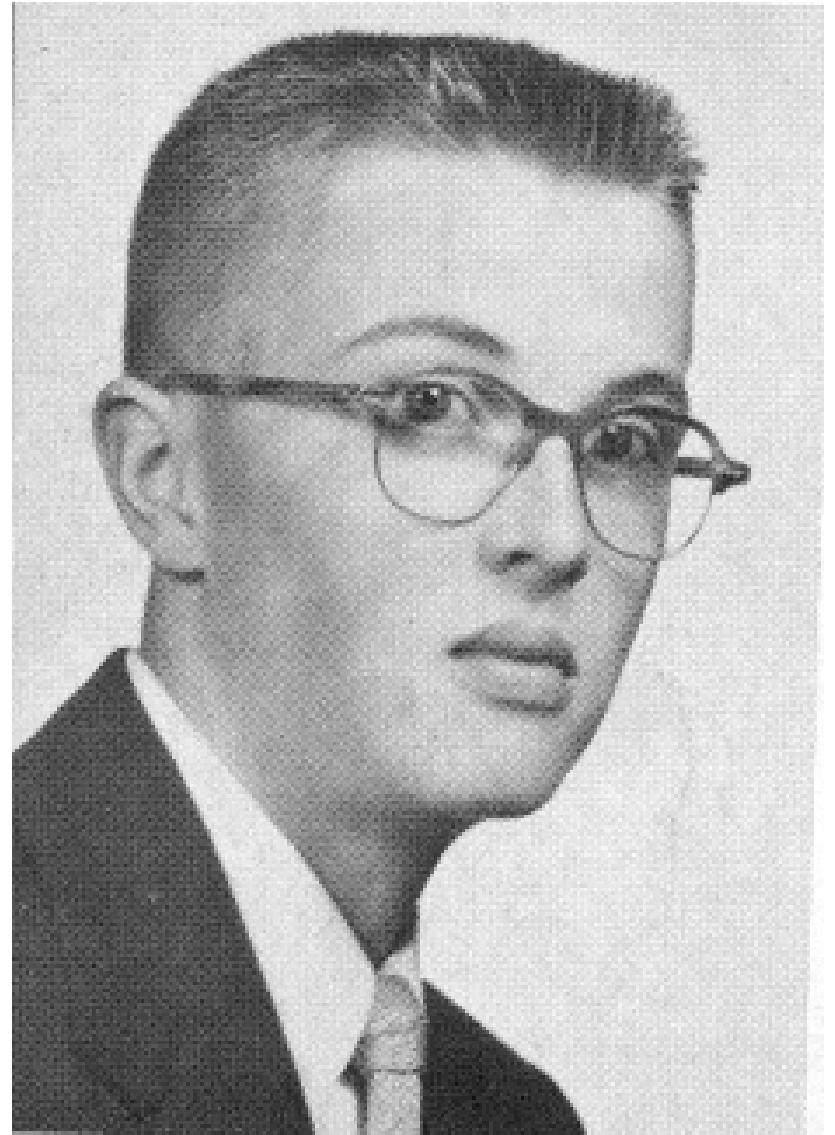
**1953**

## Betty Brothers



1953

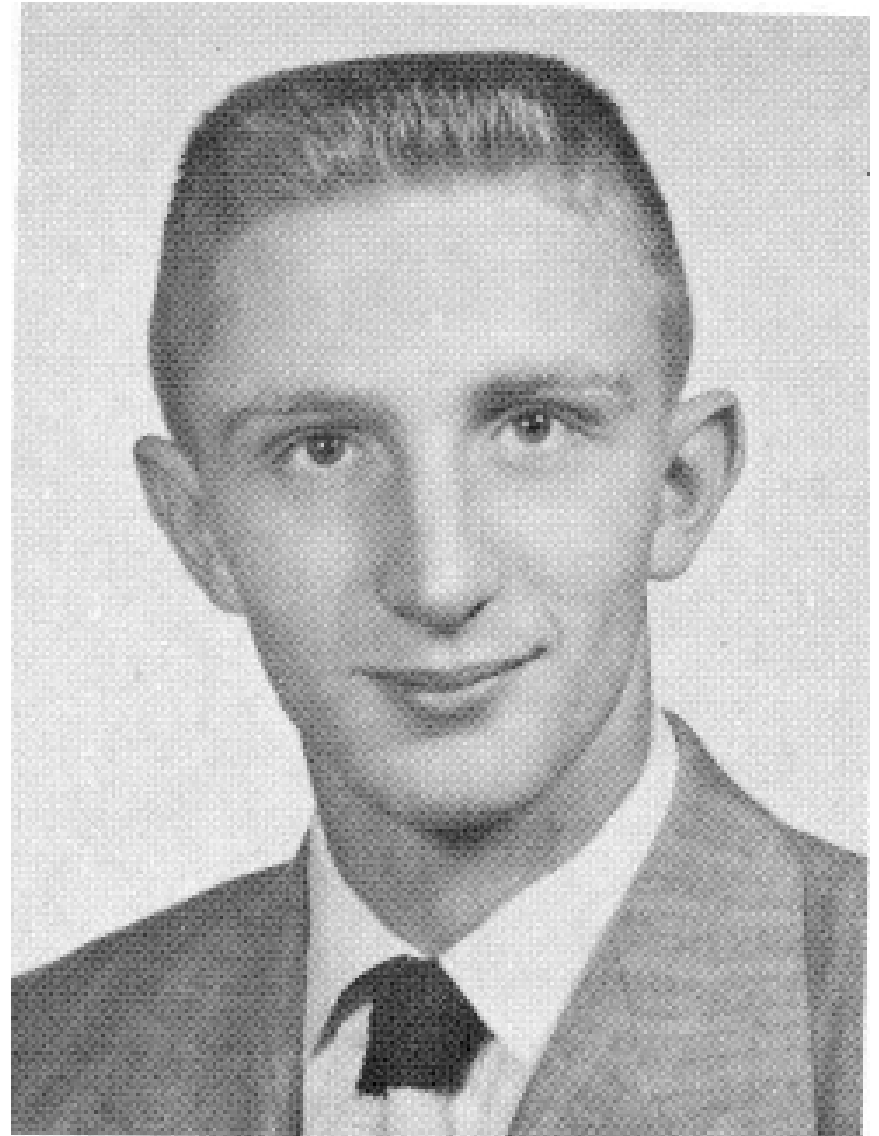
**Warren Cook**



**Patricia ...**

**1953**

**Richard E. Cooper**  
**7-25-1935**  
**Deceased 10-8-2015**



**Donna Solomon**  
**1-25-1954**

**1953**



**Richard E. Cooper**  
**7-25-1935**  
**Deceased 10-8-2015**



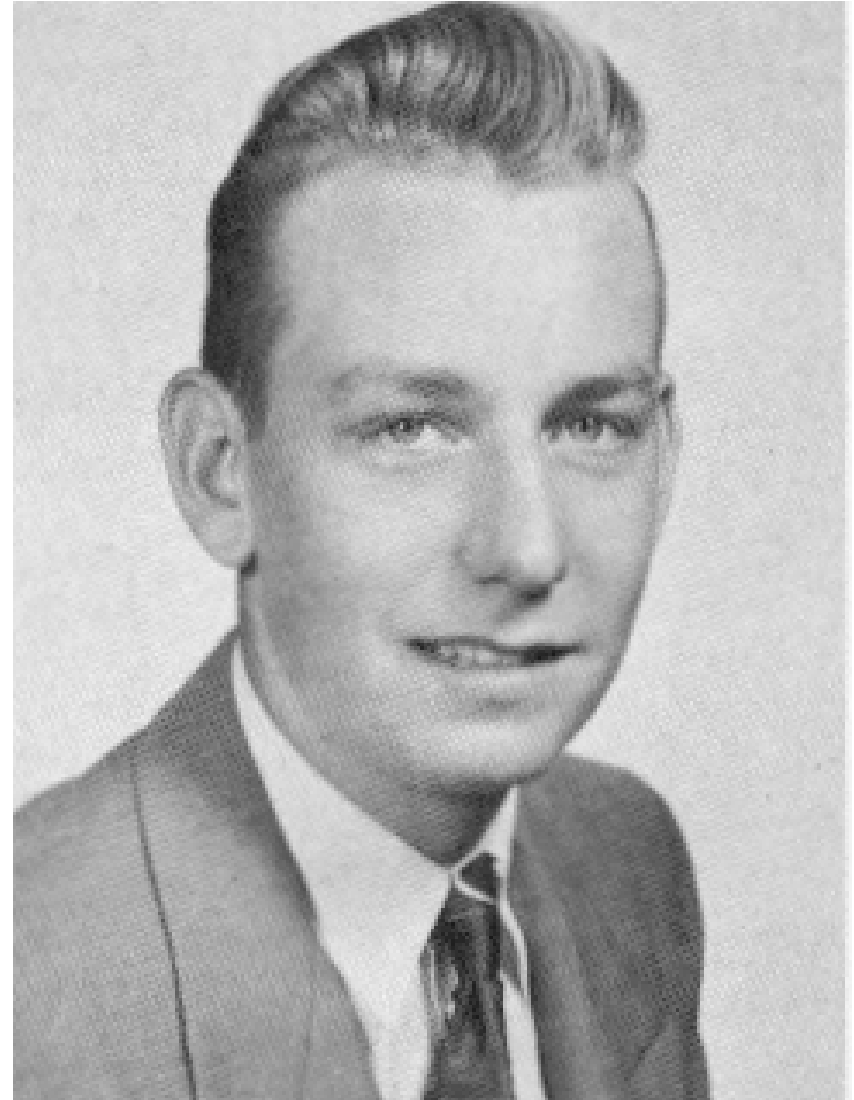
**Donna Solomon**  
**1-25-1954**

Richard E. Cooper age 80 of Corunna, passed away Thursday, October 8, 2015 at the Durand Senior Care and Rehab Center. A Masonic service will be 1:00 PM Monday, October 12, 2015 at Watkins Brothers Funeral Homes, Corunna Chapel. Family will receive friends from 10:00 AM until the time of the service.

Richard was born July 25, 1935 in Owosso, a son of Elwyn and Elna (Walter) Cooper. On January 25, 1954 he married Donna Solomon. He enjoyed hunting and he was a former Grand Commander of Michigan Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Michigan. Prior to his retirement he was a truck driver and a salesman of truck parts for many years.

Richard is survived by his wife, Donna (Solomon) Cooper; children, Brian (Maribeth) Cooper of Burton, Cindy (Terry) Korienek of Owosso, Kary (Rosemary) Cooper of Corunna and Stephanie (Guy) Mineruing of Dallas, TX; 9 grandchildren; and 10 great grandchildren.

**Charles W. Crowe**  
**7-3-1935**  
**Deceased 5-24-1997**



**Clara Thompson**  
**10-11-1958**

**1953**

**Charles W. Crowe**  
**7-3-1935**  
**Deceased 5-24-1997**

**Clara Thompson**  
**10-11-1958**

**1953**

### **Charles Wayne Crowe**

Age 61, of **Corunna**, passed away Saturday, May 24, 1997, at Memorial Healthcare Center, Owosso.

Mr. Crowe was a licensed livestock dealer; was in livestock trucking and farming.

Services were held at St. Paul Catholic Church, Tuesday, May 27, 1997, at 10 a.m. The Rev. Fr. Robert Kolenski officiated with burial at St. Paul Cemetery. Visitation was held at Nelson-House Funeral Homes, Owosso.

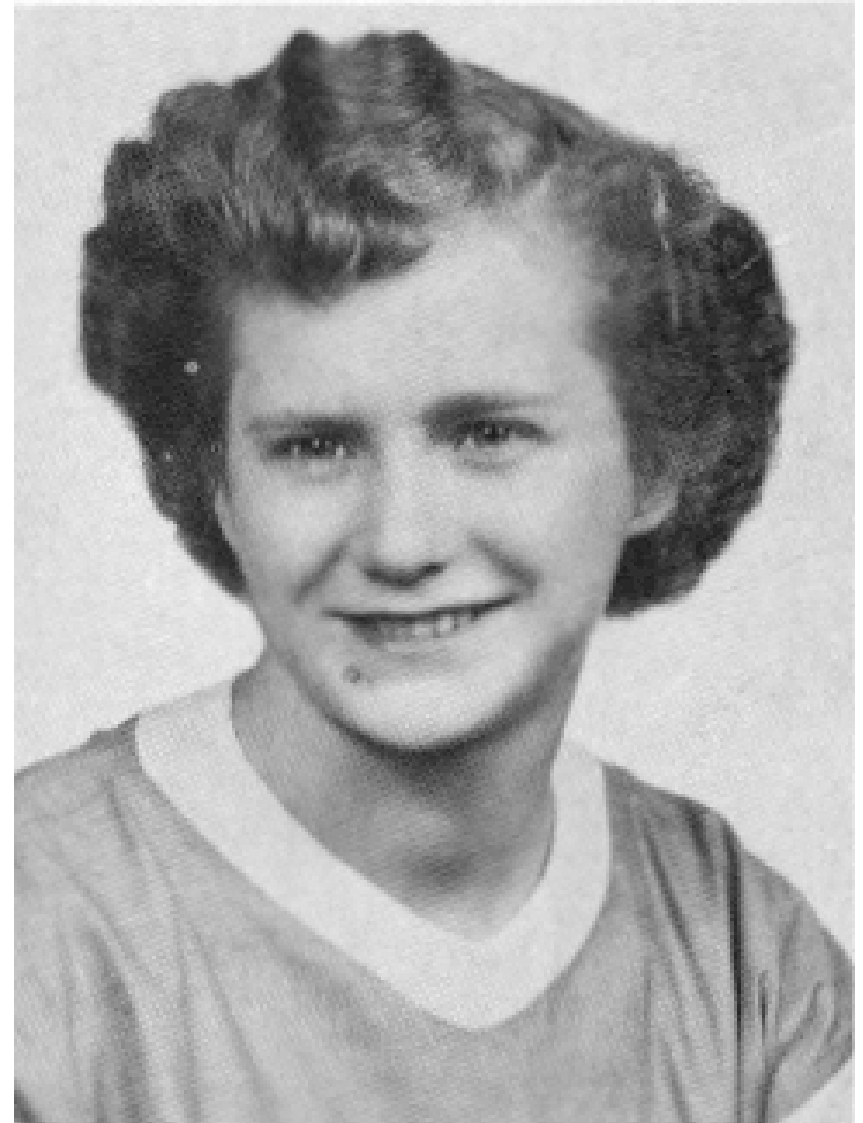
Mr. Crowe was born in Owosso, July 3, 1935, the son of George and Grace (Evelth) **Crowe**. He was a graduate of Corunna High School, class of 1953, and had resided most of his life in **Corunna**. He and Clara Thompson were married, October 11, 1958, at St. Joseph Church, Owosso.

He was a member of St. Paul's Catholic Church.

Survivors include: his wife, Clara; four daughters, Mrs. Gary (Kelly) Smith of Durand, Mrs. Pat (Denise) Bannan of Owosso, Mrs. Edward (Pamela) Bennett of Holt, Mrs. Timothy (LeAnn) Birchmeier of New Lothrop; one son, Troy **Crowe**, of Corunna, eight grandchildren; two sisters, Mrs. James (Joan) Knox of Swartz Creek, Maxine Claxton of Corunna.

Memorials may be made to: Corunna Public Schools Educational Foundation; or St. Paul's School.

**Lela M. Cummings**  
**12-29-1934**  
**Deceased 5-24-2014**



**Stanley Hunt**  
**9-19-1953**

**1953**

**Lela M. Cummings**  
**12-29-1934**  
**Deceased 5-24-2014**

**Stanley Hunt**  
**9-19-1953**

1953

**Lela Marie Hunt**

Dec. 29, 1934 - May 24, 2014

Age 79, of Owosso, passed away Saturday, May 24, 2014, at the Shiawassee County Medical Care Facility.

Funeral services will be held Friday, May 30, 2014, at 1 p.m. at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints in Owosso with Bishop Fred Brown officiating. Burial will follow in Oak Grove Cemetery. Family will greet friends Thursday from 2 to 4 p.m. and 6 to 8 p.m. at Watkins Brothers Funeral Home, Jennings Lyons Chapel in Owosso.

Lela was born Dec. 29, 1934, in Corunna, the daughter of Seth and Della (Muzzy) Cummings. She was a graduate of Corunna High School, class of 1952. On Sept. 19, 1953, she married Stanley Hunt in Owosso and he predeceased her in 2012. Lela worked for Toledo Commutator, Pleasant View and she was a home caregiver for 10 years. She was a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints.

She is survived by children Dennis (Lana) Hunt, Tamara Marble, Ralph Hunt and Elisabeth (John) Freeman; son-in-law Gary Gage; 19 grandchildren and many great-grandchildren; brother Seth (Shiela) Cummings; and sisters Mary



Ann Sutphen, Helen Lynch and Jennifer (Bruce) Renken.

Lela was predeceased by her daughter Debra Gage in 2012, grandchild Brian Freeman and son-in-law William Marble Jr.

Memorial contributions are suggested to the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints or the Salvation Army.

Online condolences can be sent to [www.watkinsfuneral-homes.com](http://www.watkinsfuneral-homes.com).

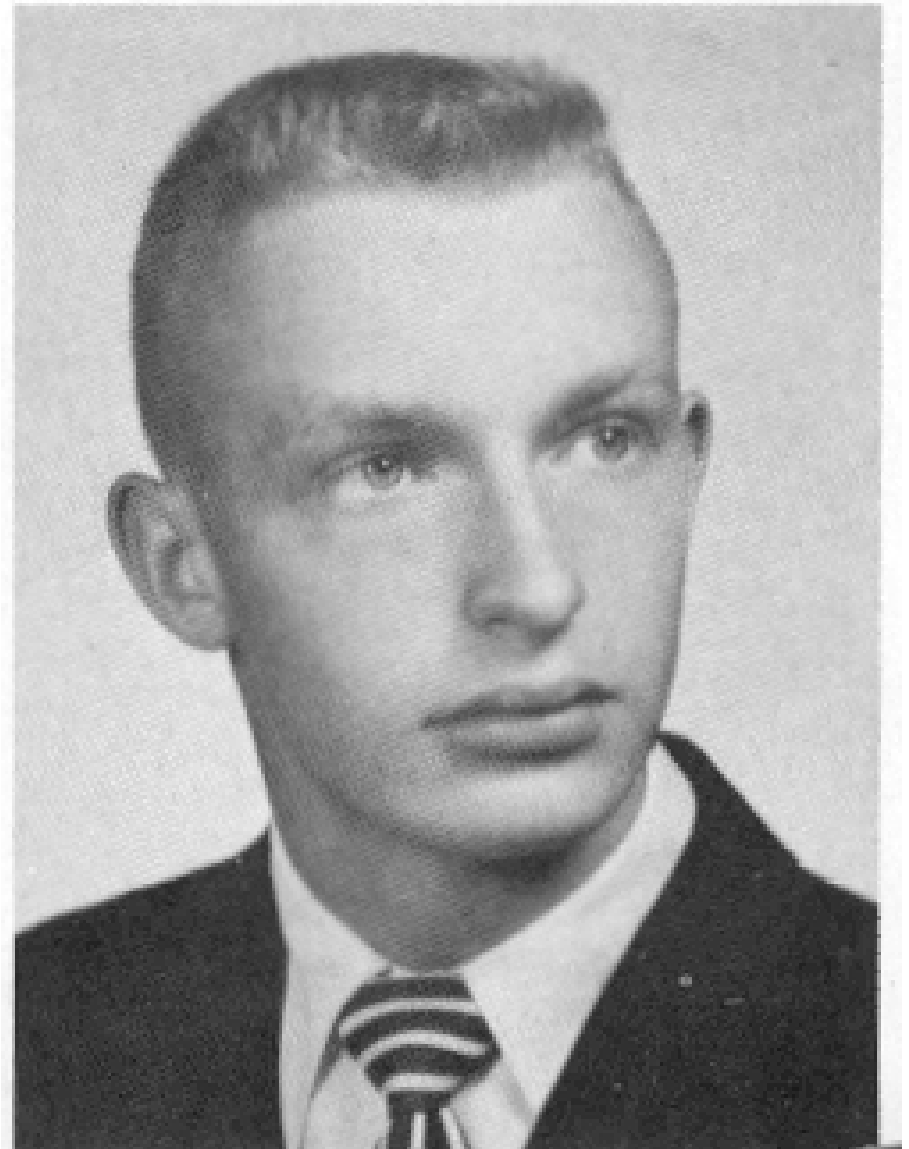
**Marie B. Flynn**



**Gerald Taylor (55)**

**1953**

**Philip A. Gidley**



**Judith ...**

**1953**

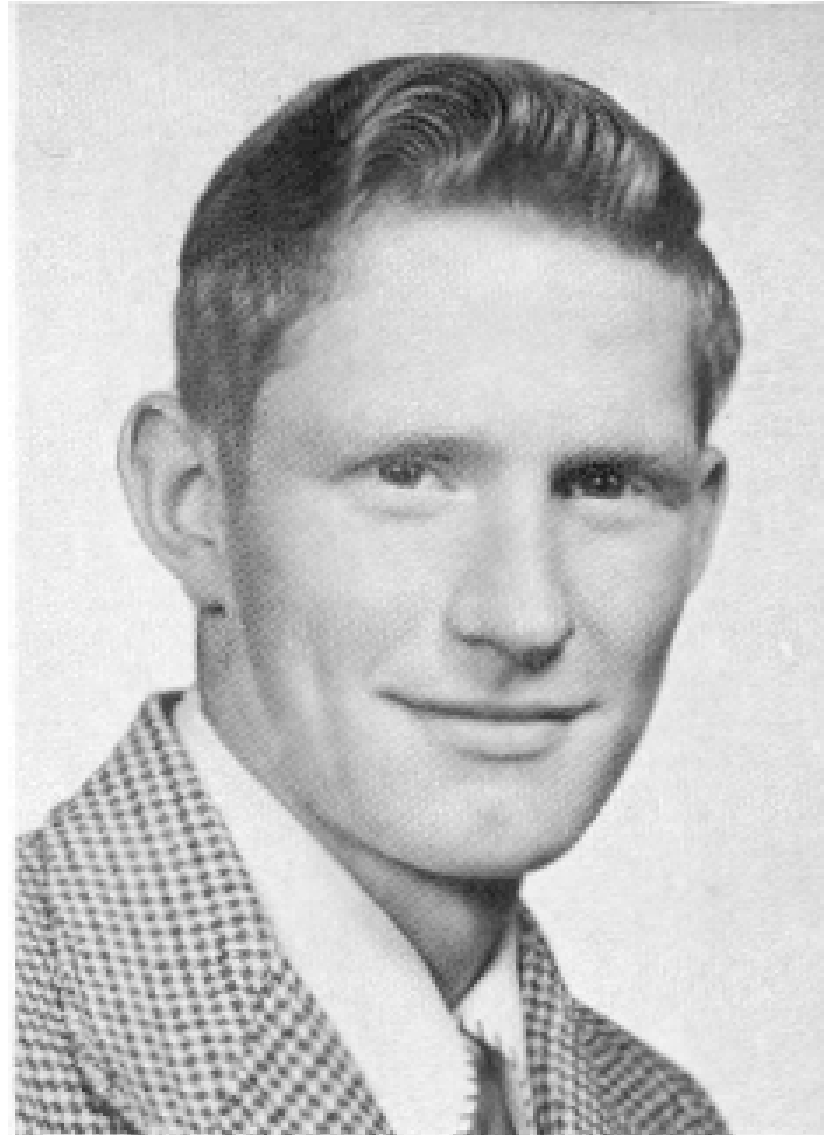
**John W. Glick**



**1953**



**Reginald G. Hadlock**  
**8-31-1935**  
**Deceased 1-16-2018**



**Bonnie ...**

**1953**

**Reginald G. Hadlock**  
**8-31-1935**  
**Deceased 1-16-2018**

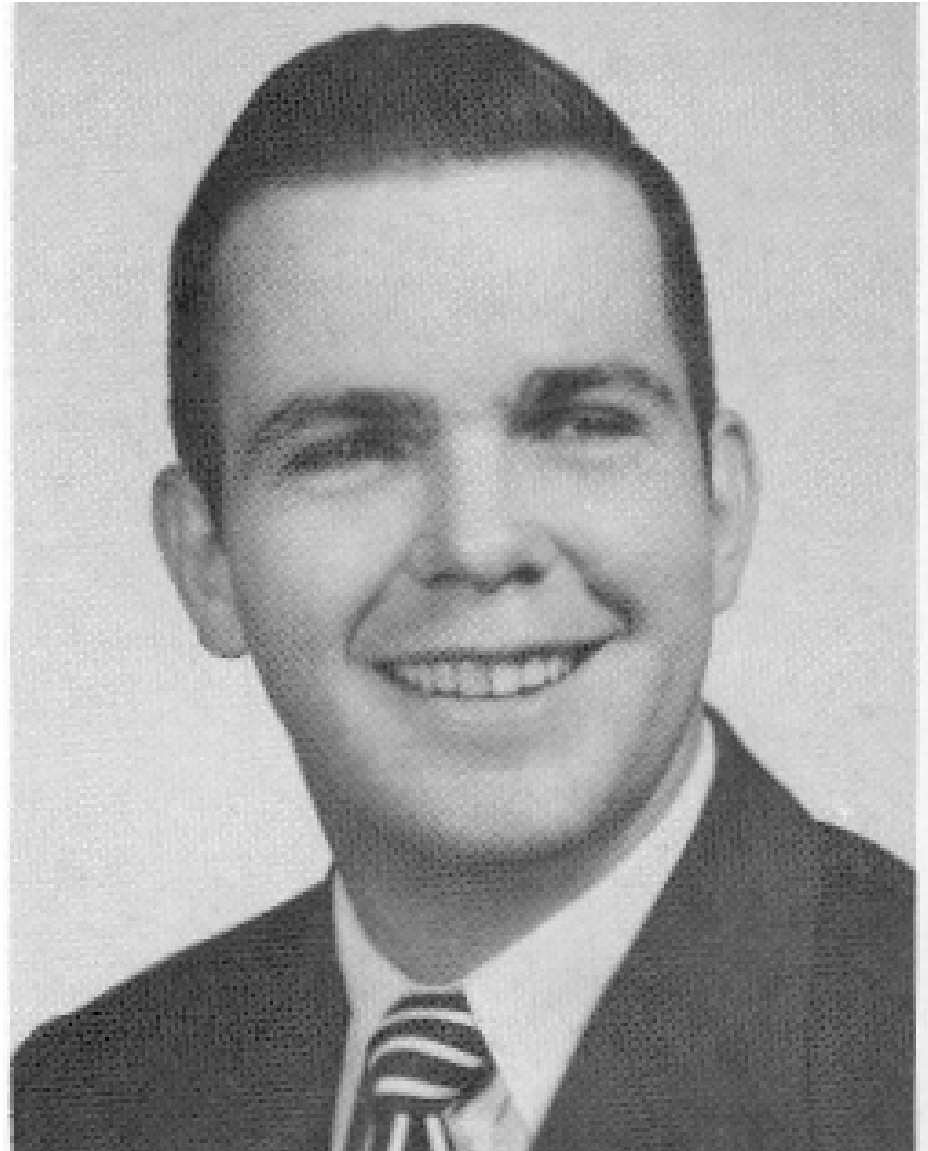
**Bonnie ...**

**Reginald "Gene" Hadlock went to be with his family on January 16, 2018. Gene was born in Owosso, Michigan on August 31, 1935, to Reginald and Helen Hadlock. After a short stint in the Army, Gene moved to Yuma, Arizona, where he met the love of his life, Bonnie. Gene made a career as a letter carrier in Yuma, Arizona where he retired from. Many people who knew Gene, would always be able to find him at the bowling alley or on the golf course.**

**Gene was preceded in death by his parents Reginald and Helen, his wife of 33 years, Bonnie, his two children, Brenda and Robert Hadlock, along with his brothers Thomas and Deryl.**

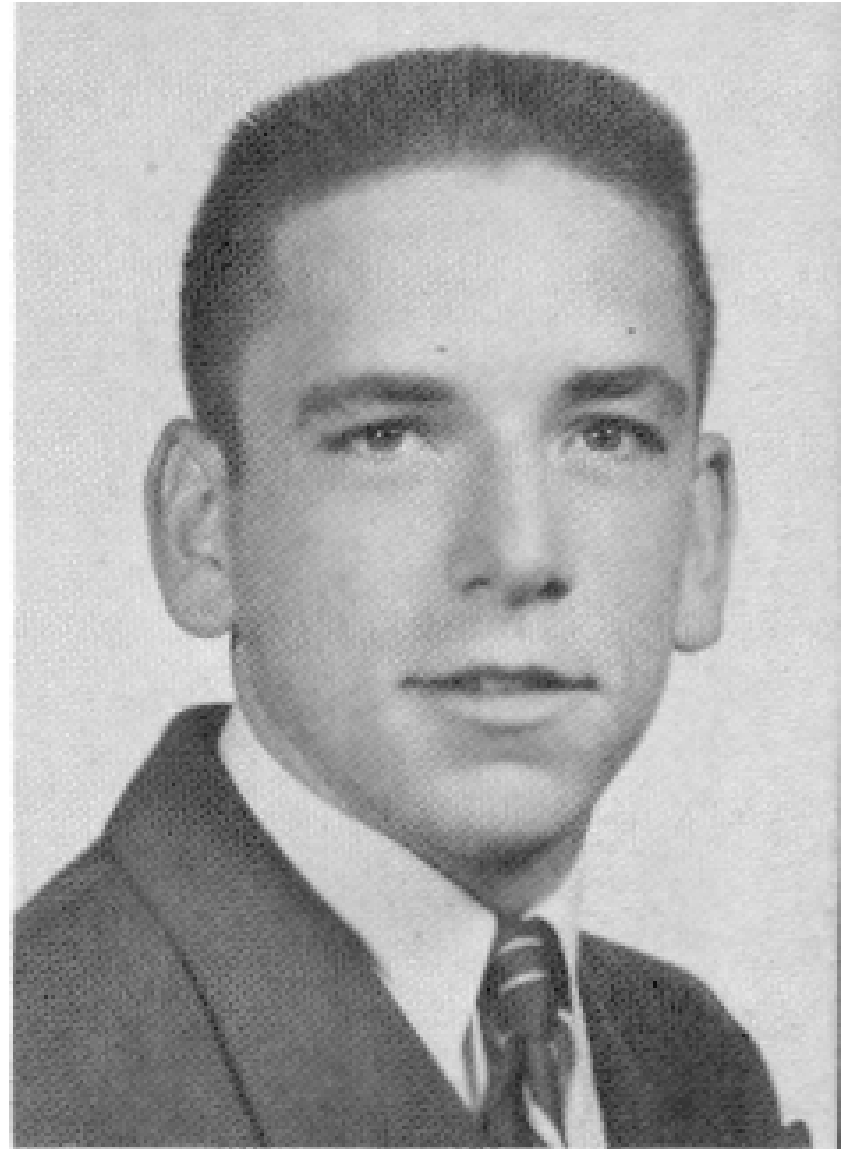
**Gene is survived by his daughter in law, Tara, 4 grandchildren, Amanda, Reggie, Connor and Joscelyn and one great grandchild, Robert.**

**Edward R. Hancock**



**1953**

**William H. Hawkins**



**Dawn ...**

**1953**

**Doris A. Hein**



**Ernest Pendell**

**1953**

**Beverly Hemenway**



**Herbert Cummings**

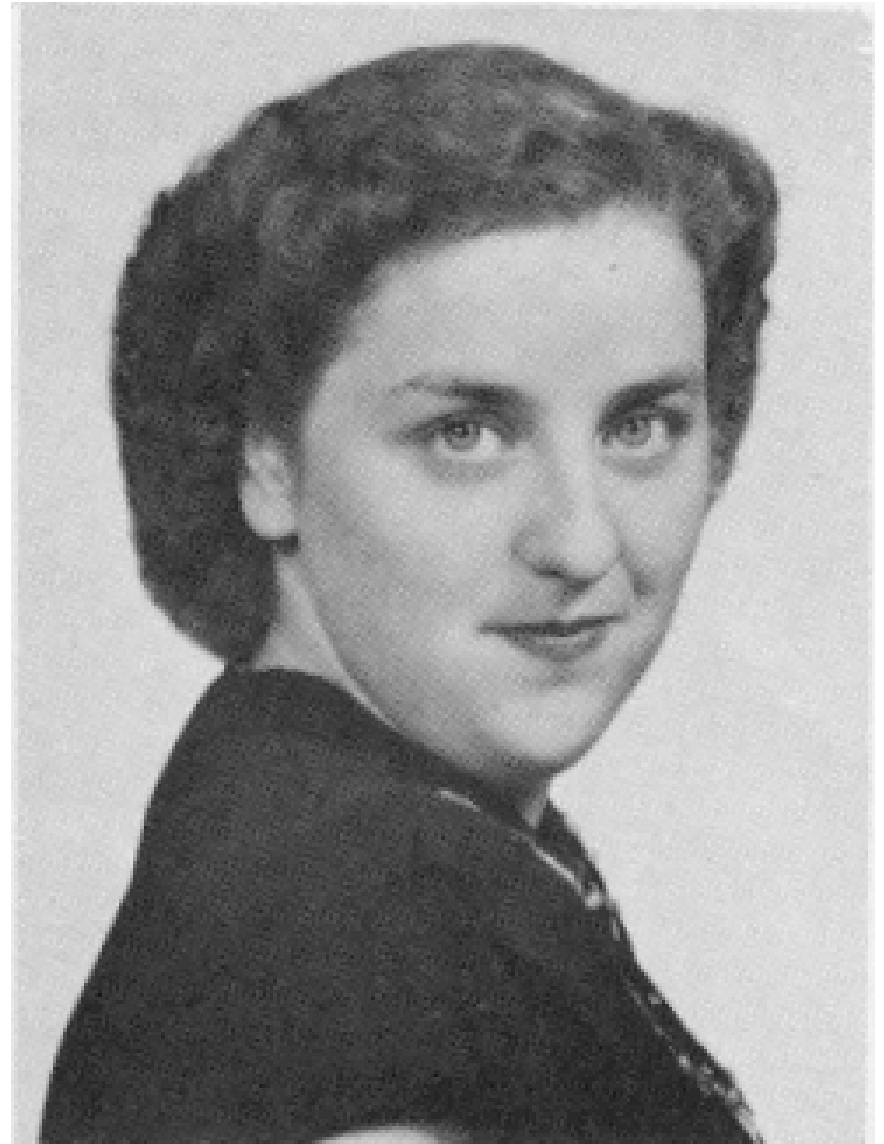
**1953**

**Margaurite E. Hollenback**



**1953**

**Glennis L. Katt**  
**7-8-1935**

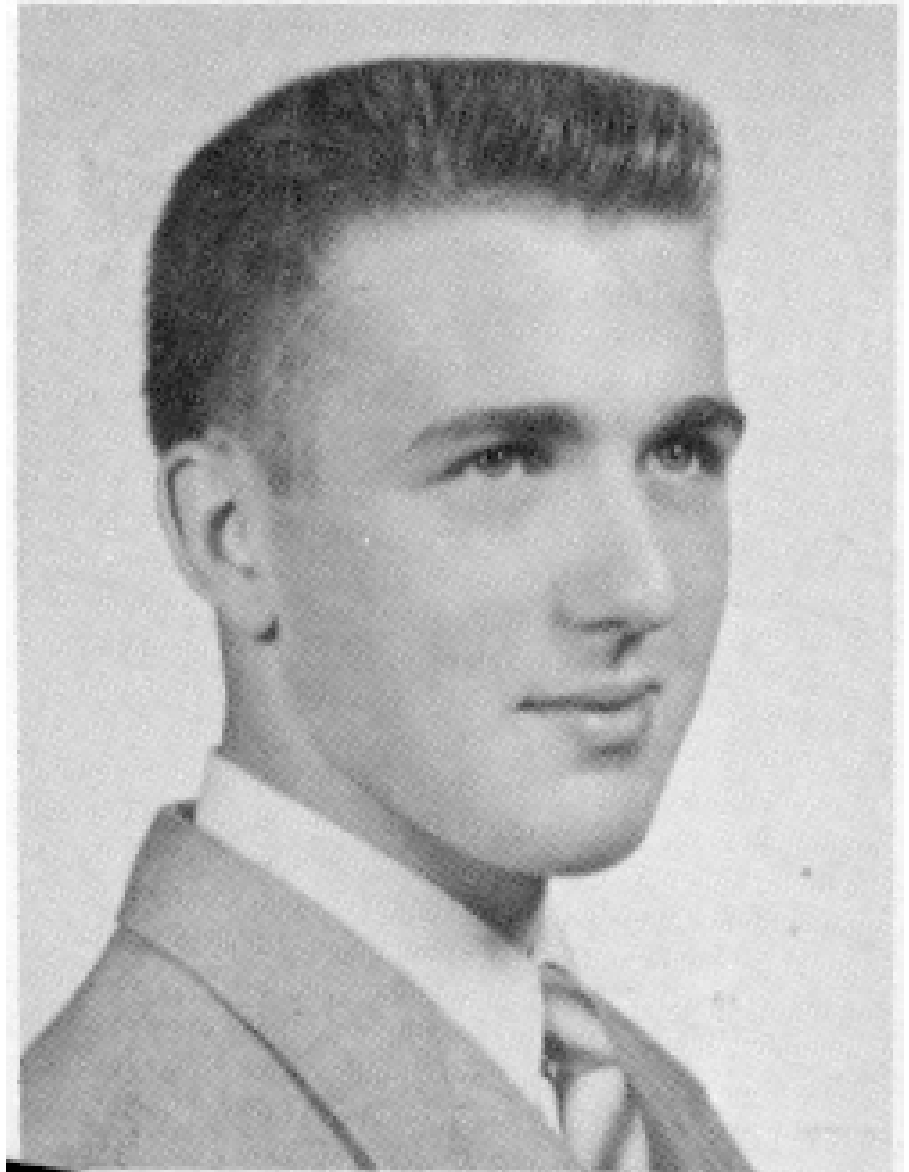


**... Lenker**

**1953**



**Mike L. Koyne**  
**5-17-1935**  
**Deceased 6-17-2004**



**1953**

**Mike L. Koyne**  
**5-17-1935**  
**Deceased 6-13-2004**



**Merwyn "Mike" Koyne age 69 of Elsie, Michigan died Sunday, June 13, 2004 at his home.**

**Funeral Service will be held on Thursday, June 17, 2004 at 11:00 at Smith Family Funeral Homes, Elsie Chapel. Rev. James P. James will officiate with burial at Fairfield Township Cemetery, Fairfield Township, Michigan. Visitation will be Wednesday June 16, 2004 2-8 P.M. with family present 2-4 & 6-8 P.M. at Smith Family Funeral Homes, Elsie Chapel. Mike was born in Owosso, Michigan on May 17, 1935 the son of James Clem & Alta Marion ( Deener ) Koyne. He graduated from Corunna High School in Corunna, Michigan and Lansing Community College with an Associates Degree. He retired from Oldsmobile in 1988 after 30 years of service. He loved to fish in Canada & followed sports and the Olympics. He also loved to cook. Mike was a member of the UAW #652 in Lansing, Michigan. He resided most of his life in the Elsie & Corunna area. He is survived by his daughter Penny Lynn Koyne of South Carolina, 2 sons, Michael & Diana Koyne of Charlotte, MI, and Rodney & Beth Koyne of Washington DC, 6 grandchildren, 1 sister Elaine, 1 brother, Jim and a host of friends. He is predeceased by his parents.**

**Agnes Libra**



**... Lund**

**1953**

**Faye E. Love**



**1953**

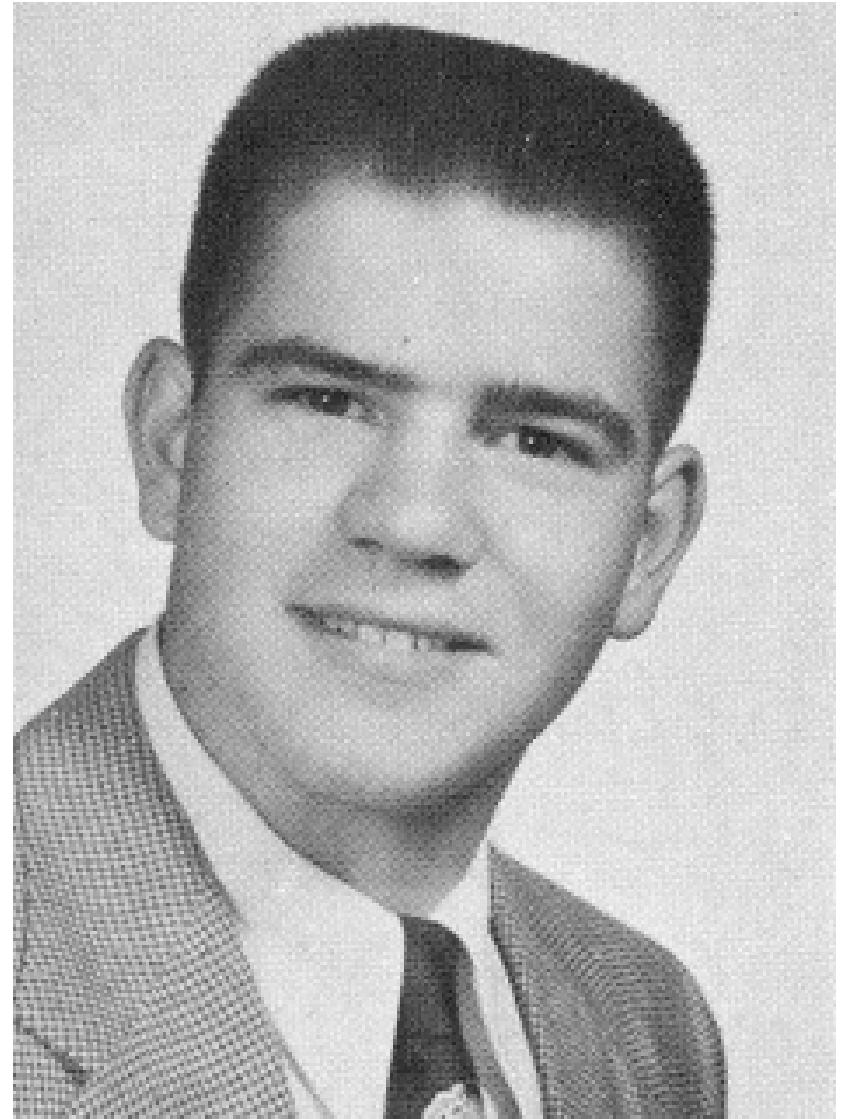
**Marilyn J. McLane**  
**3-24-1936**  
**Deceased 7-16-1999**



**Don Mehigh (53)**  
**2-9-1957**

**1953**

**Donald Mehig**  
**9-9-1934**  
**Deceased 11-26-2011**



**Marilyn J. McLane (53)**  
**2-9-1957**

**1953**

**Donald Mehigh**  
**9-9-1934**  
**Deceased 11-26-2011**



**Marilyn J. McLane (53)**  
**2-9-1957**

**1953**

**Donald 'Don' H. Mehigh**

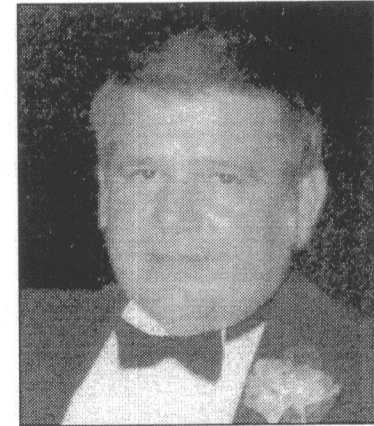
Age 77, of Corunna, passed away Saturday, Nov. 26, 2011, at Henry Ford Hospital in Detroit.

A Mass of Christian burial will be held at 11 a.m. Thursday, Dec. 1, 2011, at St. Joseph Catholic Church with Fr. Phillip Schweda officiating and burial to follow at Pine Tree Cemetery. The family will receive friends Wednesday from 2 to 8 p.m. at the funeral home with a rosary prayed at 6 p.m.

Don was born Sept. 9, 1934, in Owosso, the son of Leon and Frances (Shenkus) Mehigh. He graduated from Corunna High School and served in the United States Army during the Korean War. He married Marilyn "Mert" McLane at St. Joseph Catholic Church Feb. 9, 1957, in Owosso.

He was a member of St. Joseph Catholic Church. Don was a foreman at Fisher Body of Lansing and retired after 37 years of service. He served his community in many ways. Don was a Corunna city councilman for more than 10 years and served on both the ambulance and fire boards. He was a founding member of the Corunna Area Ambulance Service. Don was also well-known as the "neighborhood auto body repairman" for many years.

Don enjoyed bird and deer watching, hunting, fishing and carpentry. He found his greatest joy spending time with his family and his dogs Cinder and Chelsea.



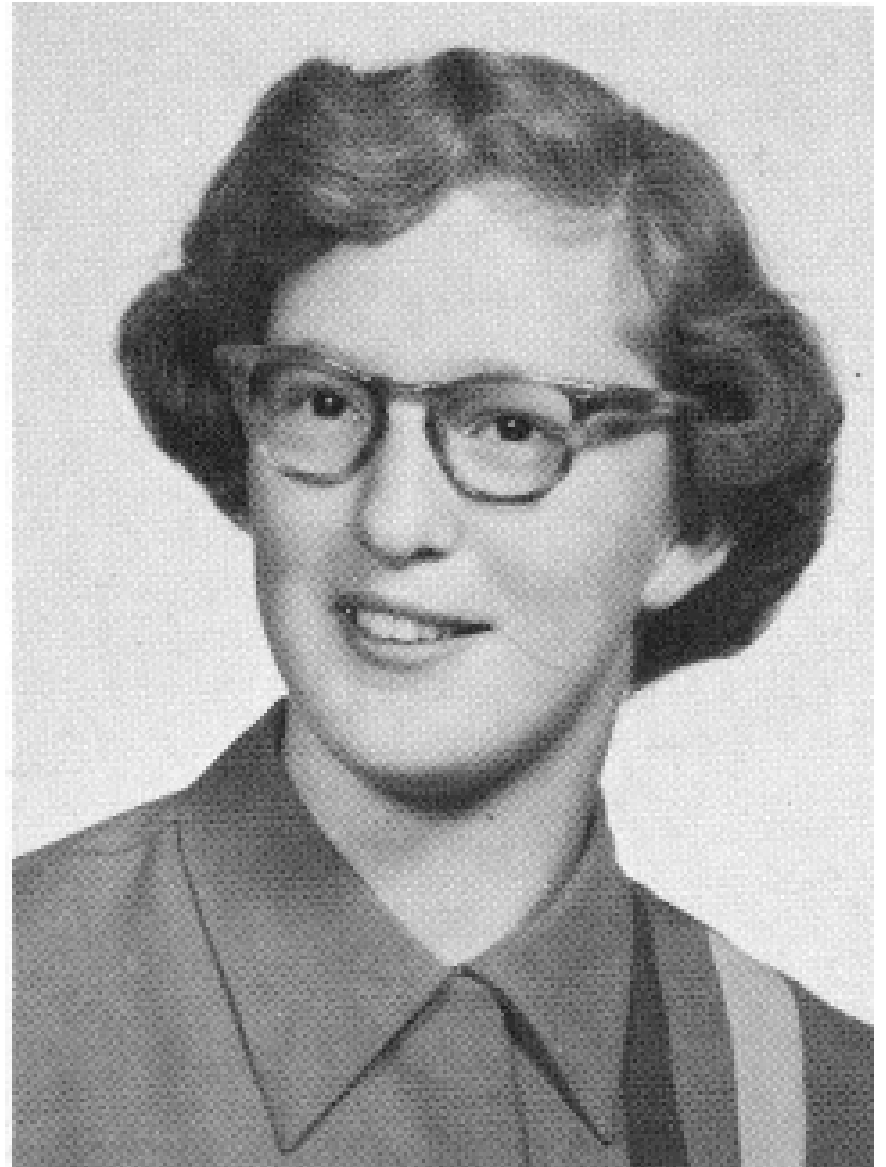
He is survived by his son Todd Mehigh of Corunna; daughter Trena Turnwald of Portage; brothers Richard (MaryAnn) Mehigh and Raymond (Sandy) Mehigh; sister Elaine Anderson; and many nieces and nephews.

Donald was predeceased by his wife Marilyn in 1999, parents Leon and Frances, brother Gene Mehigh, sisters Gloria Rasmussen and Margaret Owens, and nephew Timothy Anderson.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions are suggested to the Shiawassee County Humane Society.

Online condolences may be sent to the family at Nelson-House.com.

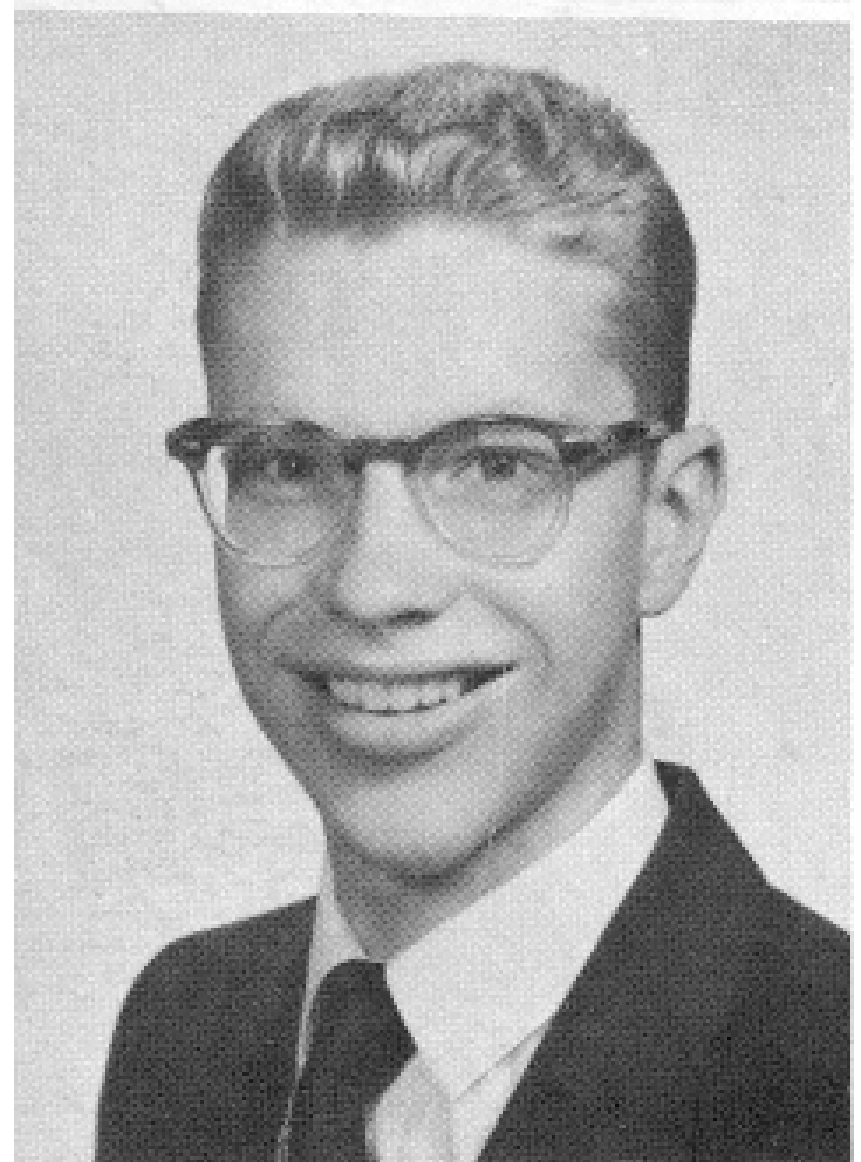
**Phyllis Moore**  
**Deceased 2-23-1955**



**1953**

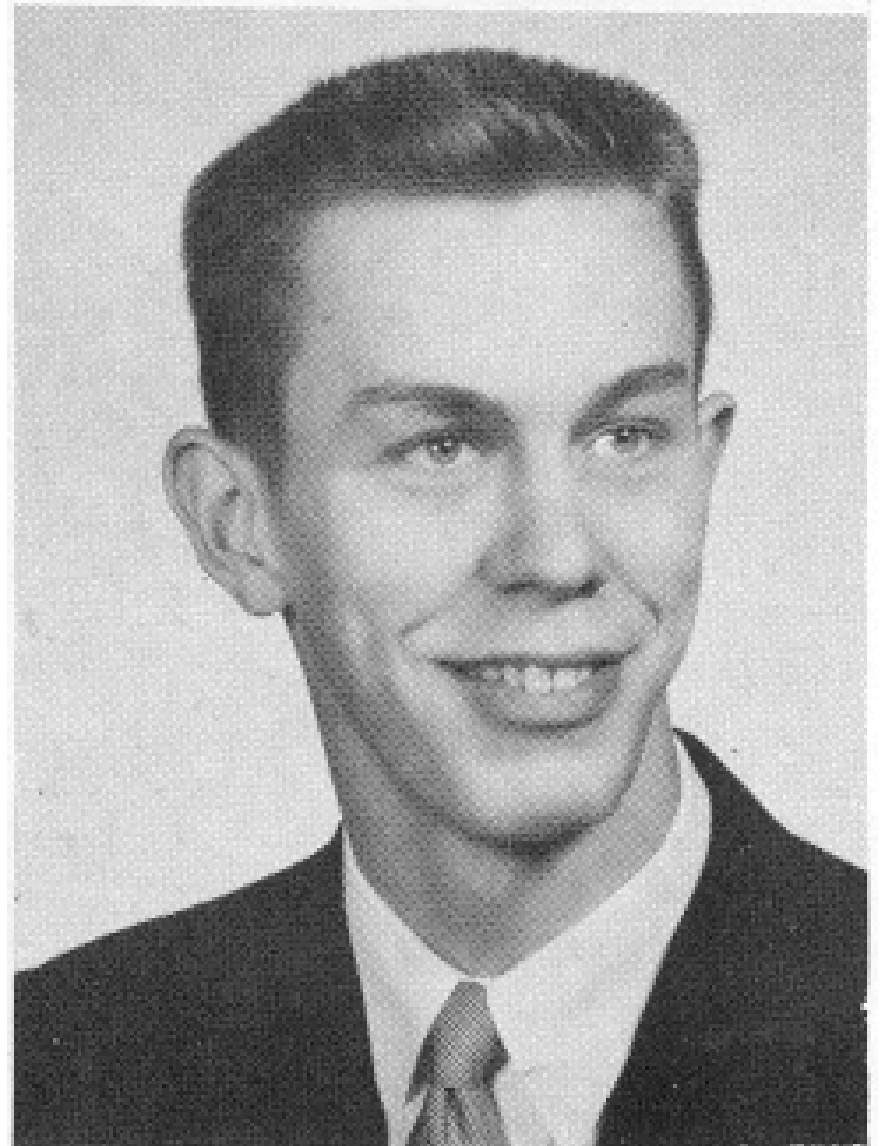


**Robert Morden**



**1953**

**David B. Morris**



**Joanne ...**

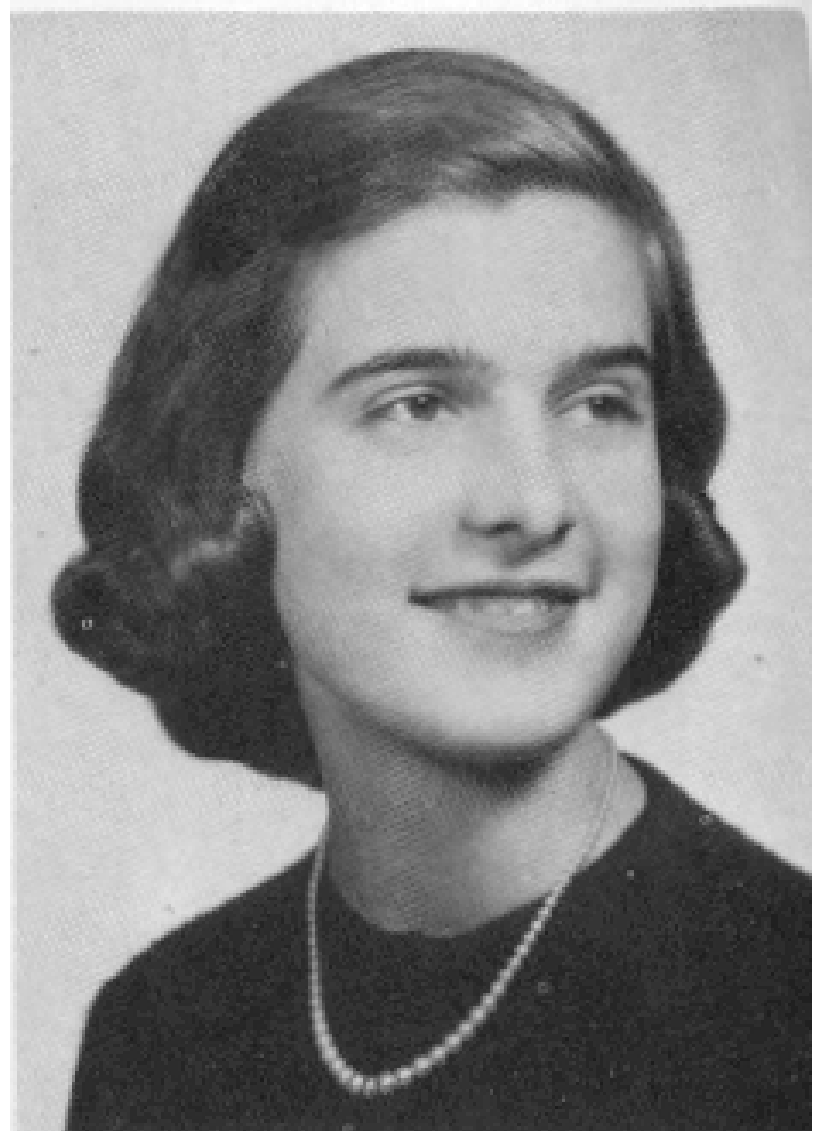
**1953**

**Loretta Root**



**1953**

**Margaret A. Rose**



**1953**

**Betty J. Rust**



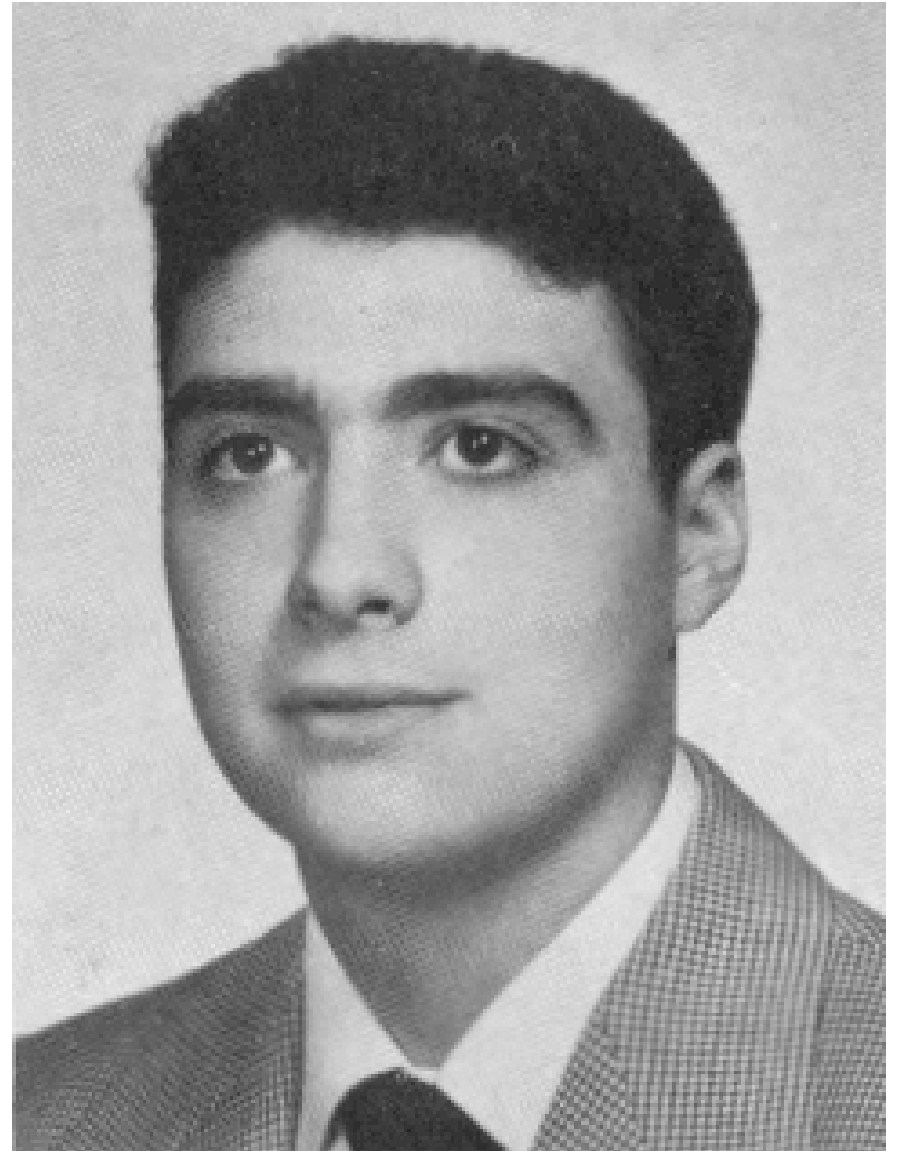
**1953**

# Francis R. Spaniola



*Argus-Press Photo/Dick Campbell*

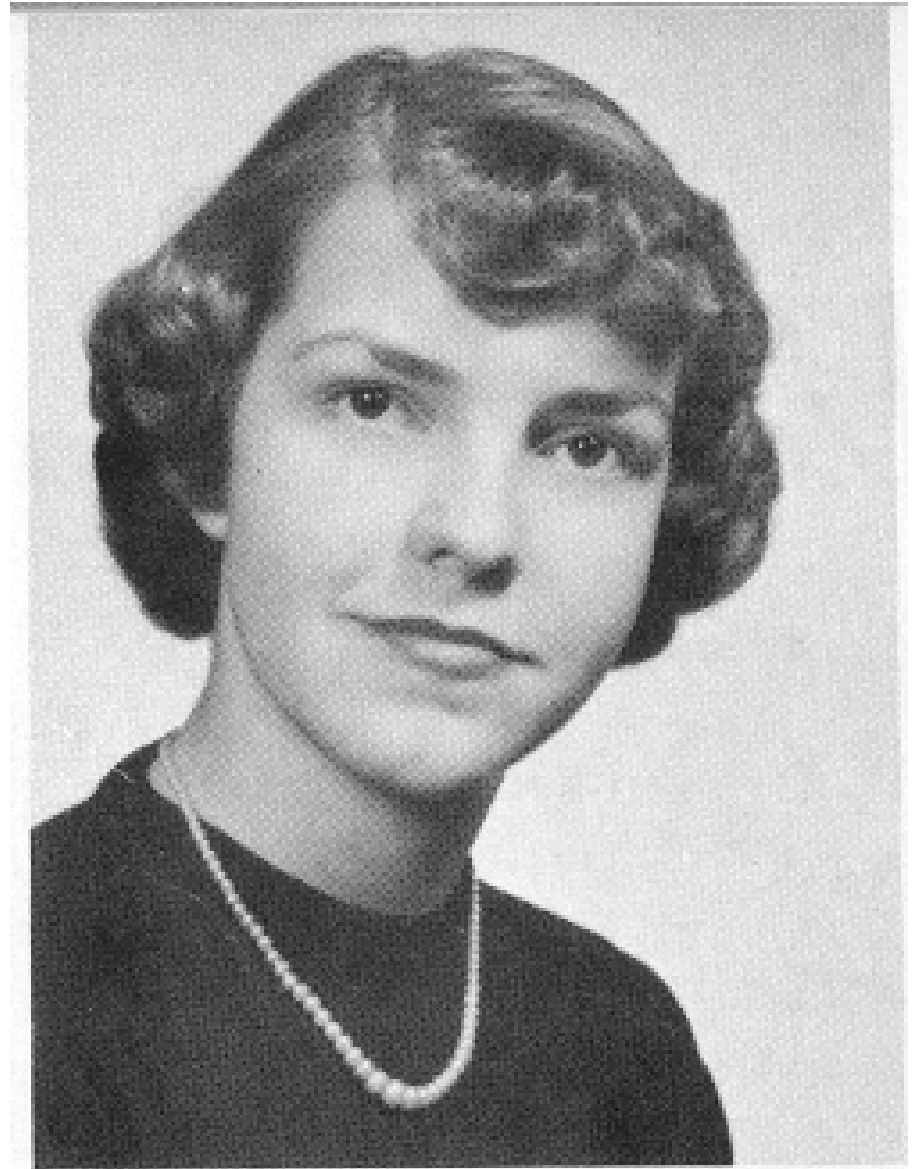
**PRINCIPALS AT LAST NIGHT'S** Pasta and Politics, the annual dinner sponsored by the Shiawassee County Democratic Party, were, from left, former State Representative Francis R. "Bus" Spaniola, Shiawassee County Democratic Party Chair Carol Spaniola and featured speaker, State Representative Jack Minore, D-Flint. The crowd at GiGi's House of Catering, Corunna, was the largest for the yearly event in many years. 5-15-04



**Carol ...**

**1953**

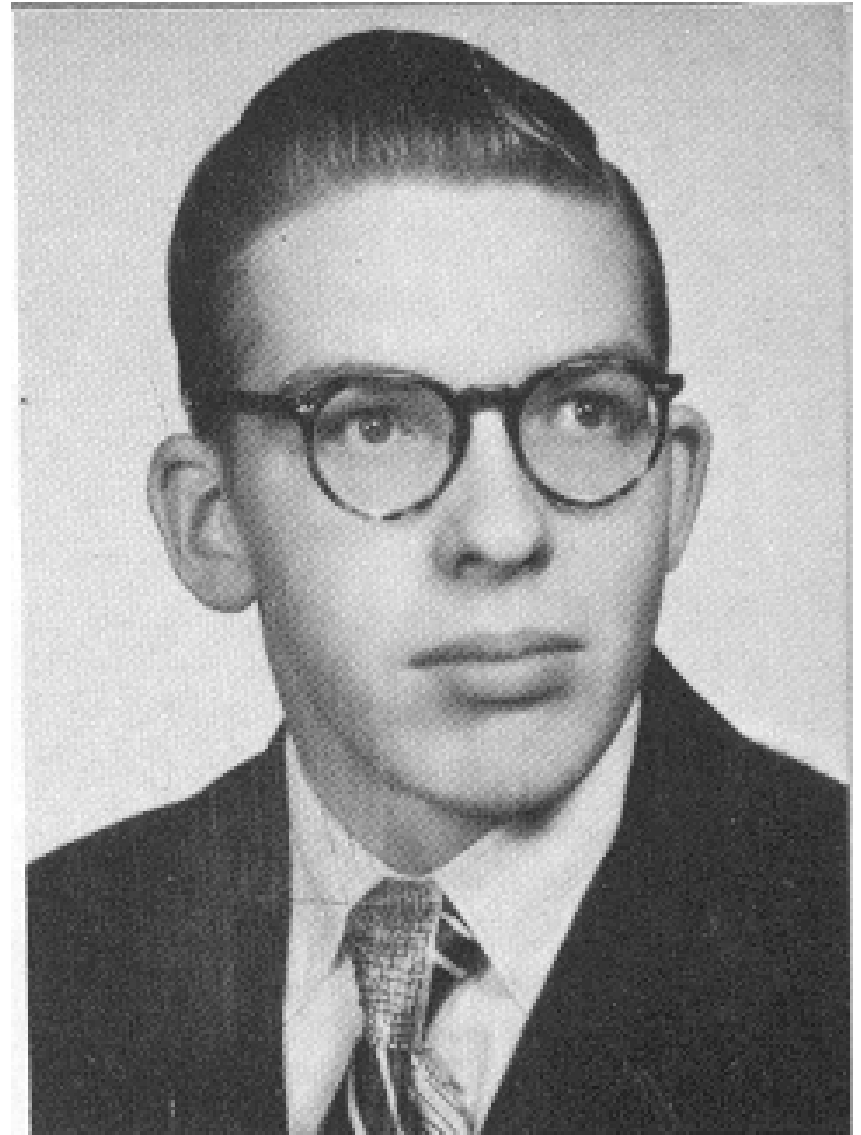
**Roberta K. Spore**



**Ralph Clay**

**1953**

**James L. Sprague**  
**5-29-1936**  
**Deceased 9-9-2019**



**Beth Town**  
**1961**

**1953**



**James L. Sprague**  
**5-29-1936**  
**Deceased 9-9-2019**



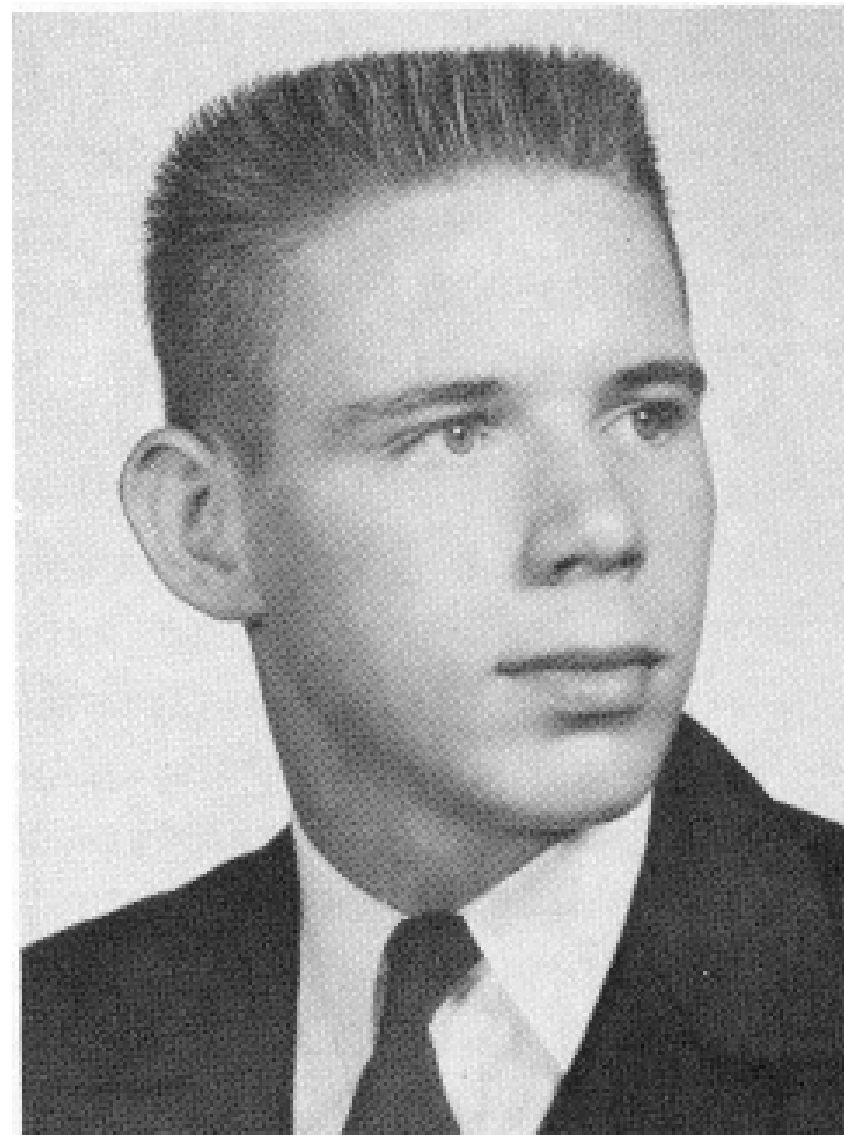
**Beth Town**  
**1961**

James Larry "Ole Pa" Sprague, 83, of Punta Gorda, Florida, formerly of Owosso, Michigan passed away Monday, September 9, 2019, in Punta Gorda. He was the son of Ivan and Marvel Sprague, born on May 29, 1936, in Owosso, MI. James was an Army Veteran, also a member of the VFW and the Shiawassee Dog and Gun Club. James was self-employed and owned Sprague Tire and Wheel for many years. He will be remembered for his generosity, kind heart and his sense of humor. James was a loving husband, father and "silly" grandpa.

He will forever join his wife of 53 years, Carolyn Beth preceded in death; Son Kevin (Kim) Sprague; Daughter, Karen (Bill) Becker; and Son Kenyon (Missy) Sprague; grandchildren, Kayla, Kelsey, Austin, Colby, and Kolten; sisters, Jackie Flynn, Jo Ellen Hartley, Sandy Schleef preceded in death and brothers, Robert Sprague preceded in death and Michael Sprague.

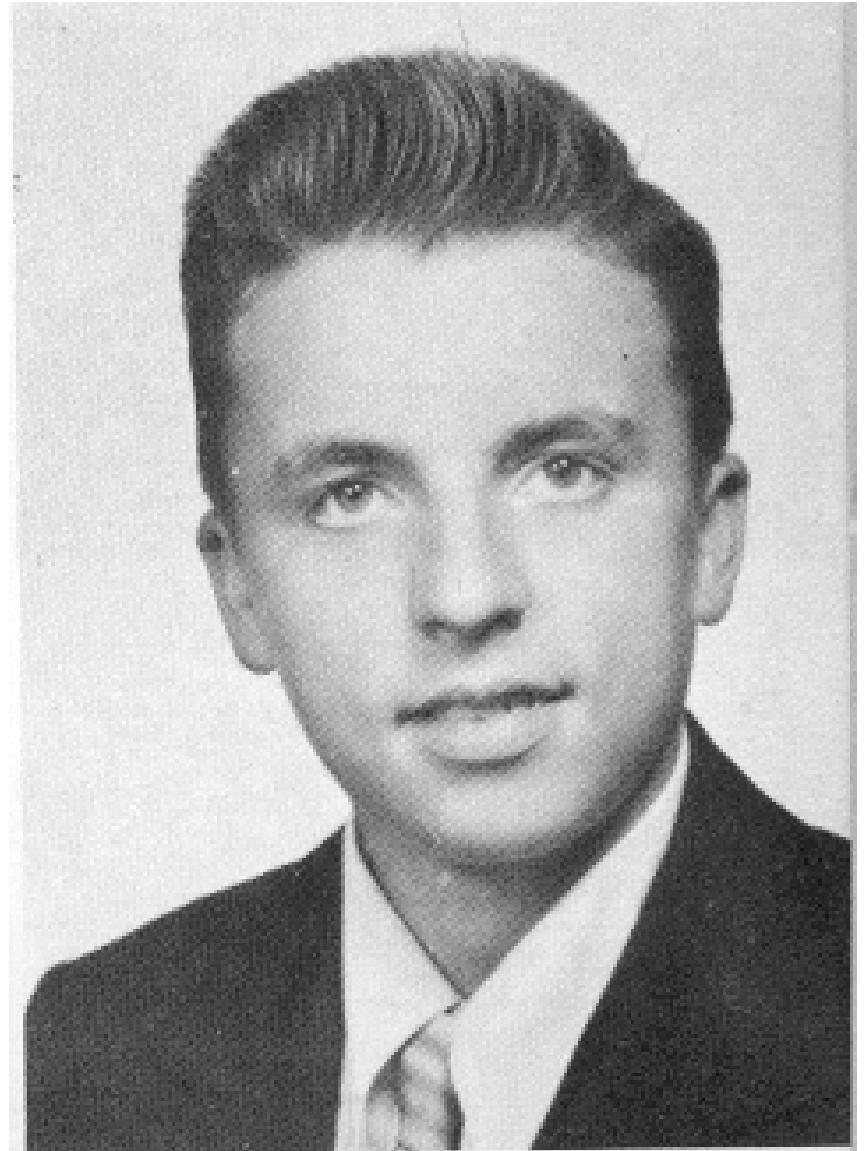
A service will be held at 1:00 pm on Saturday, October 12, 2019, at Cleveland United Methodist Church, 28038 Cleveland Drive, Punta Gorda, FL 33950. In lieu of flowers, the family is requesting donations be made to the Relay for Life of Charlotte County. To express condolences to the family and share in celebrating the life of James, please visit [www.LTaylorfuneral.com](http://www.LTaylorfuneral.com) and sign the online guestbook. Arrangements are by Larry Taylor Funeral and Cremation Services.

**Robert G. Thayer**



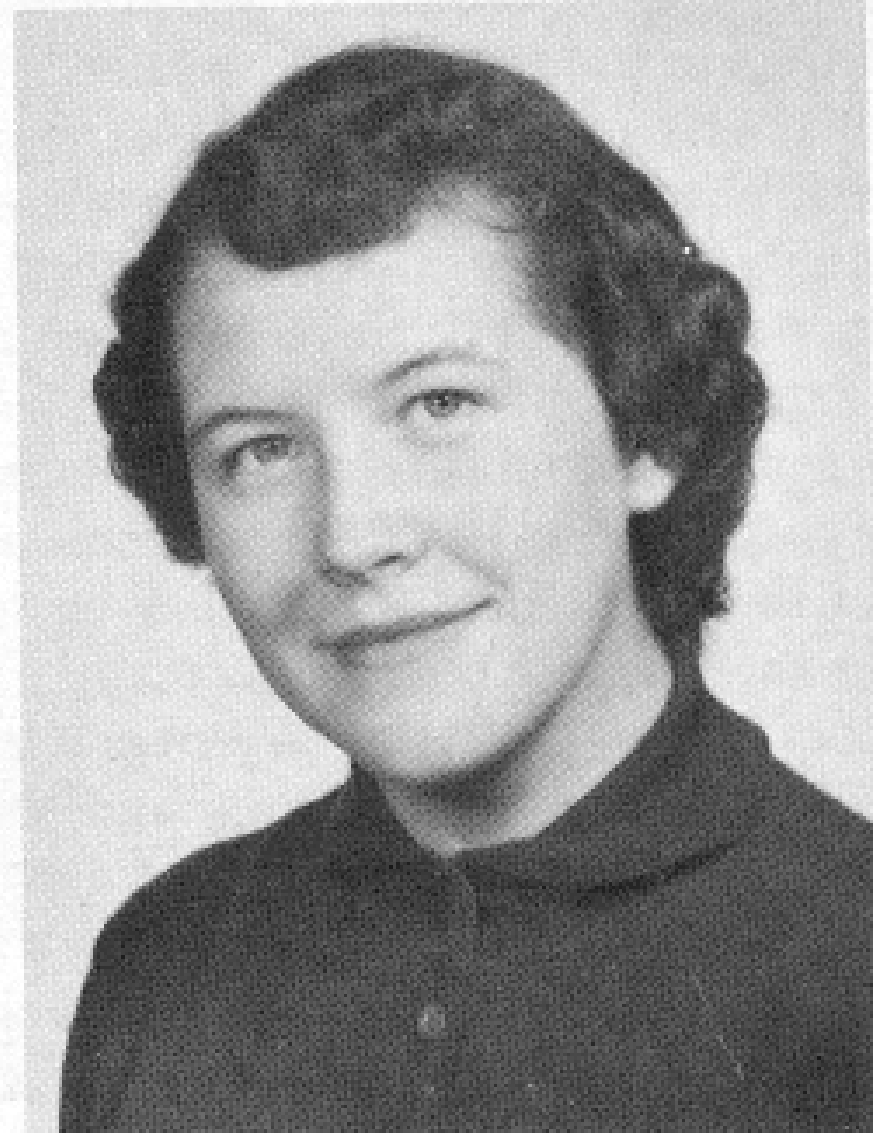
**1953**

**Clinton G. Thier**



**1953**

**Janet A. Walker**  
**1-1935**  
**Deceased 12-9-2017**



**Don Washburn**

**1953**

**Janet A. Walker**  
**1-1935**  
**Deceased 12-9-2017**



**Don Washburn**

On Dec. 9, 2017, Janet Washburn, of Owosso, added her voice to the heavenly choir. She was born to Chester and Armina (Bouck) Walker in January 1935.

Upon graduation from Corunna High School in 1953, she married Don Washburn, who passed away in 1983.

Janet was employed at Robbins Furniture for 37 years as sales and marketing director and interior designer. Upon retirement from Robbins, she worked for the city of Corunna as parks and recreation director for nine years.

During her 11 years serving on the Corunna City Council, Janet was forceful in establishing the Corunna Historical Commission, Fourth of July Commission, Corunna Softball Commission and Parks and Recreation Commission. Preserving McCurdy Park was her passion.

Janet's community service was expressed in membership of Owosso Zonta Club, American Business Women, Chamber of Commerce, Owosso Musicale, and the 911 Board.

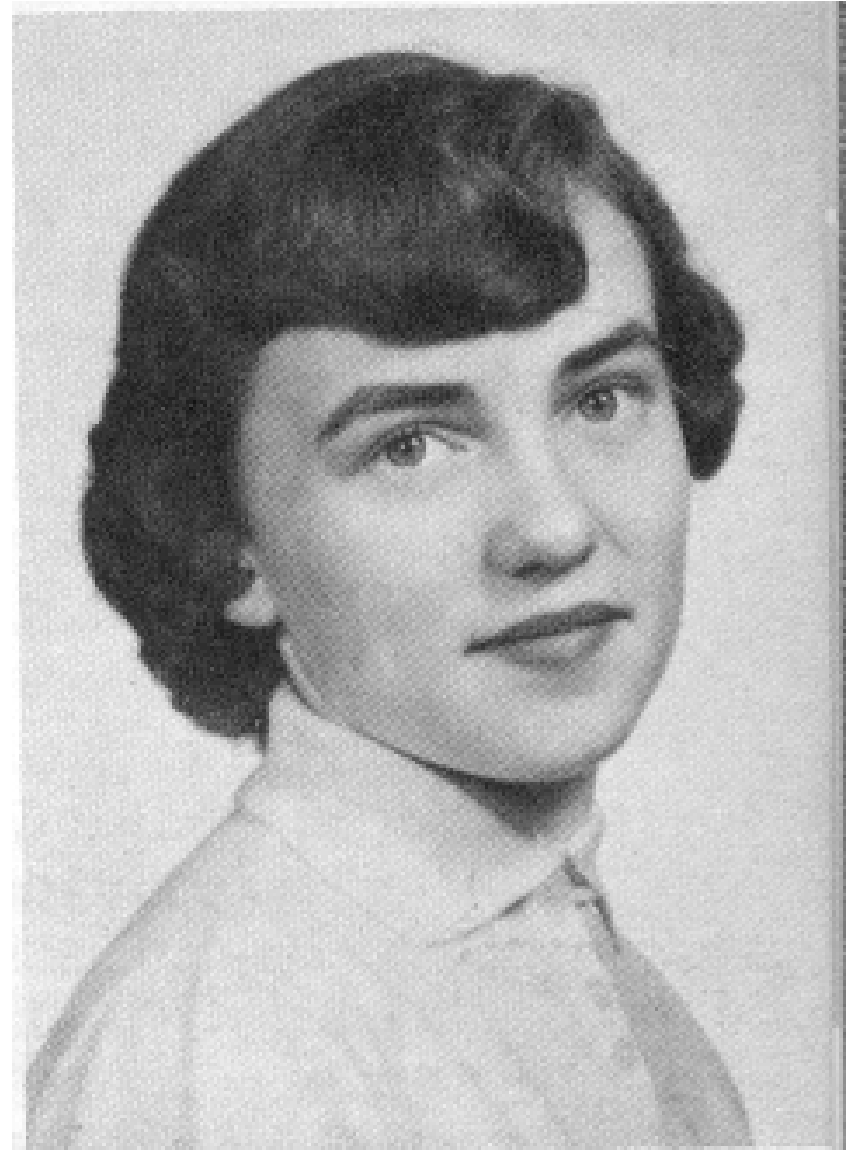
She was honored nationally by the Retail Advertising Conference in Chicago for her multimedia advertising campaign of Woodard Furniture; was grand marshal for the Corunna Fourth of July Parade; received the Woman of the Year award from ABWA ShiaAbwa Chapter; and was greatly honored to receive the ATHENA Award in 1989 from the Chamber of Commerce.

Travel, bridge, and especially music were a great part of her life. Sadly, she leaves her family; son Don (Jackie) Washburn; daughters Cindy Siddock and Joan (Paul) Burke; grandchildren Danny Siddock, Keri (Bobby) Brite, Kameron Washburn, Jennifer (Burke) Miller, Kazen Washburn, Jeffrey Jay Burke, Jillian Burke and Alex Benoit; her beloved great-grandchildren; nieces and nephews; brothers Clifford (Evelyn) Walker and Phil (Cherie) Walker; and special friend Ann Bentley.

She was predeceased by her parents, husband, infant twin son, brother Allen Walker and grandson Kevin Siddock.

Janet requested those considering an expression of sympathy to consider memorial contributions to Owosso Musicale, Corunna Historical Village or the Gideons.

**Fiona J. Whitbread**



**1953**

**Betty L. Woodworth**



**Ronald Behrens**

**1953**

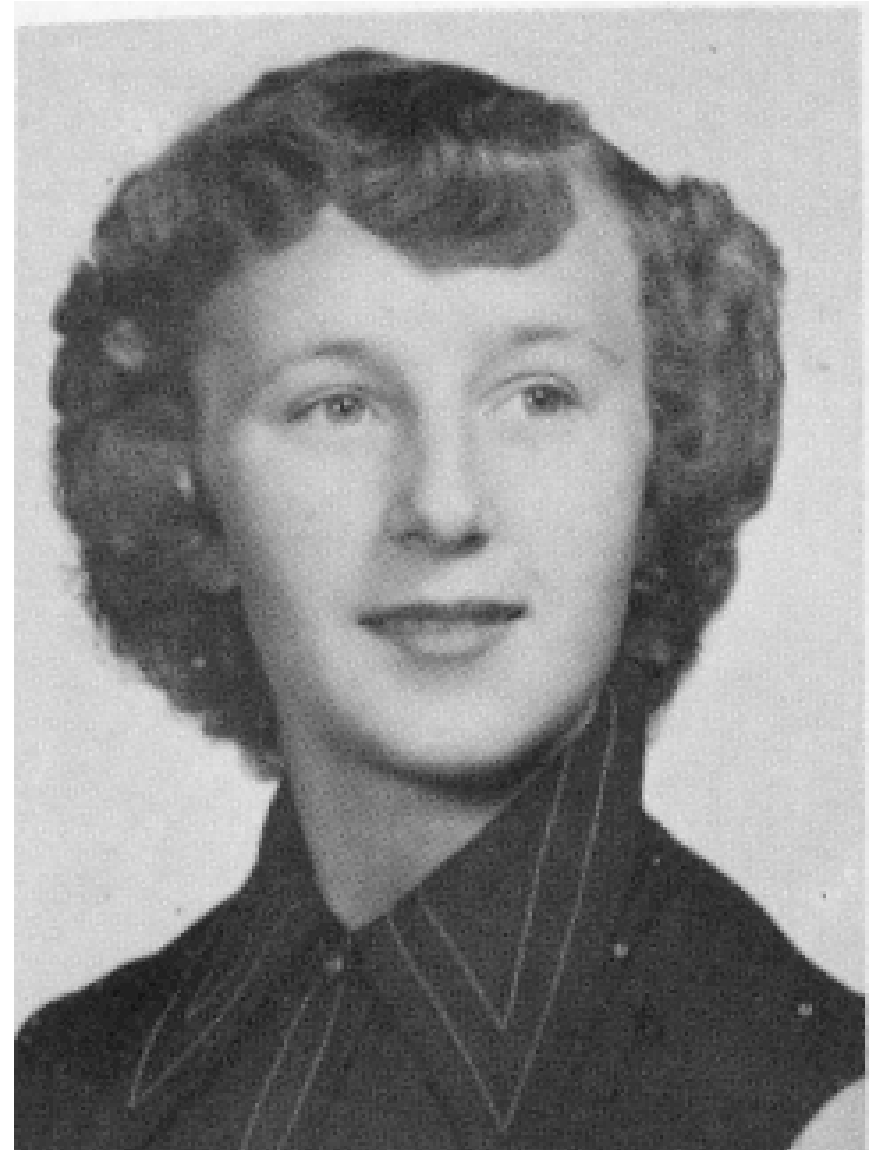
**Barbara K. Worthington**

**George M. Davis**

**1953**



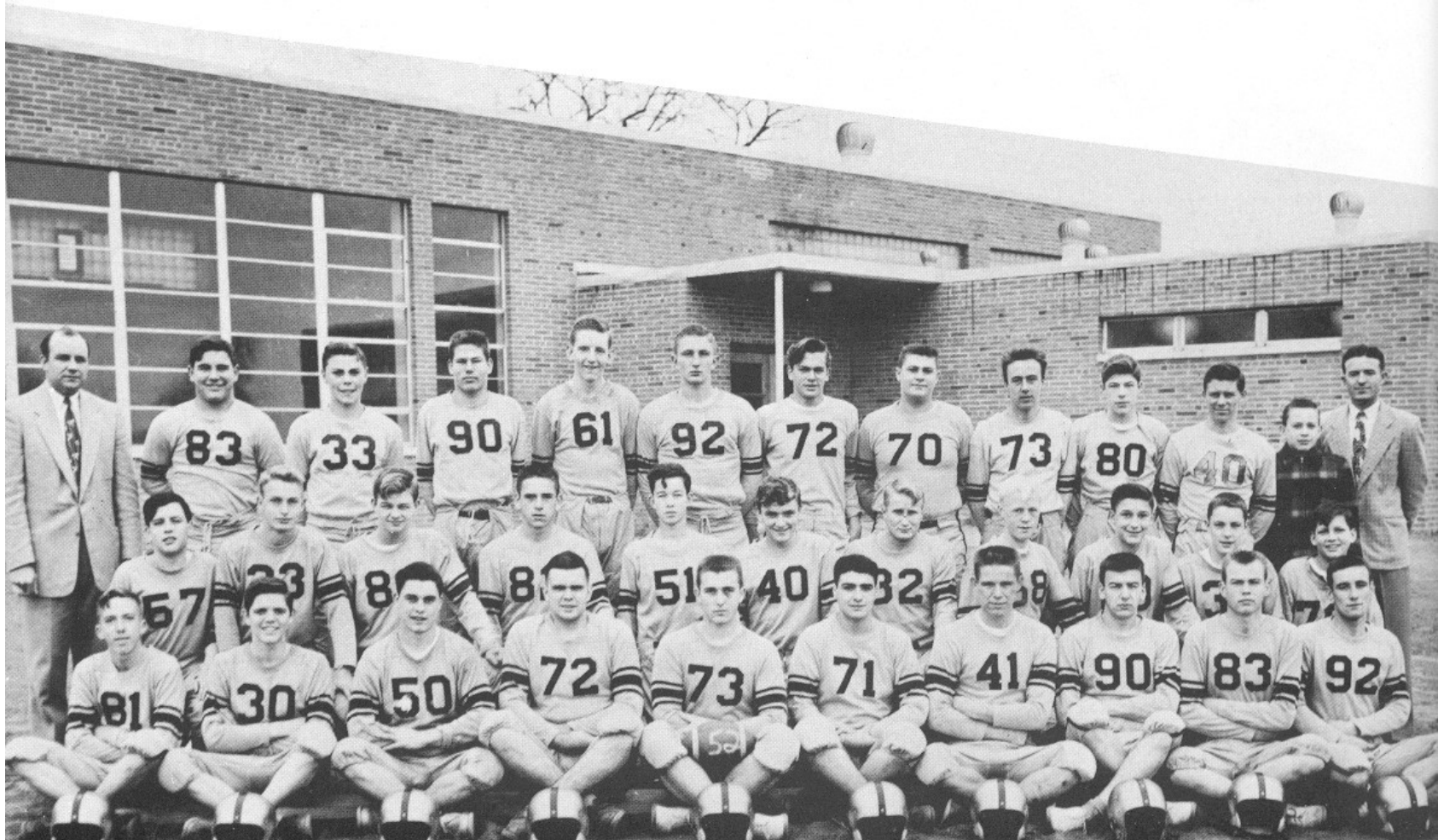
**Rosemary Zalesak**



**Dick Villegas**

**1953**

FIRST ROW: Dick Self, Melvin Berry, Phil Brooks, Ed Hancock, Mickey Koyne, Buster Spaniola, Bob Thayer, Allan Shire, Bill Mallery, Gene Sanderson. SECOND ROW: Denny Kelly, Philip Gidley, Lee Janssen, Bill Hawkins, Keith Elkins, Charles Fernette, Phil Bendall, Harry Hevelhurst, Joe Libra, Charlie Nalepa, Bob Elkins. THIRD ROW: Ray E. Dennis, coach, Neal Reavely, Bill Renwick, Jerry Lounsbury, Tom Kuechman, Dick Cooper, Lary Schlaack, Bruce Schnepf, Jim Schneider, Allen Walker, Harvey Dutcher, Wayne Vibbert, Manager, Charles Alexander, coach.







VARSITY BASKETBALL: FIRST ROW: Tom Kuechman, Melvin Berry, Joe Libra, Gene Sanderson, George Davis, Dick Self. SECOND ROW: Coach Charles Alexander, Harvey Dutcher, Phillip Brooks, Allan Shire, Keith Elkins, Charles Fennette.

CHEERLEADERS: L to R: Marie Flynn, Agnes Libra, Marilyn McLane, JoAnn Braid, and Shirley Taylor.





## *Student Council*

SEATED: Mick Koyne, Vice President; Buster Spaniola, President; Marie Flynn, Secretary; Peggy Ross, Treasurer; Mr. Stull, Advisor. STANDING: Melvin Berry, Dick Self, George Davis, Phil Bendall, Larry Flagg, Dennis Kelly.



The Student Council meets every two weeks to enforce student government, to handle student business, to O.K. proposed class activities.

This year the Council sponsored magazine sales, a dance from which the proceeds bought cheerleading sweaters, and the annual. As is customary the Annual is the most important project sponsored by the Student Council.



SENIOR PLAY CAST: STANDING: Ed Hancock, Dave Morris, Jim Sprague, Margie Hollenbeck, Peggy Ross, Phil Gidley, Roberta Spore, Betty Woodworth, Bill Glick. SEATED: Phyllis Moore, JoAnn Braid, Bob Morden, Marilyn McLane, Gary Bedford, Marie Flynn, Mrs. Margaret Ross. FLOOR ROW: Buster Spaniola, Lela Cummings.

On April 9, 1953, the Senior Class presented their play "Bill's Night Out." The play was centered about Bill Anderson (Bob Morden), a high school athlete, and his misadventures. After wrecking what he thought to be his Father's (Gary Bedford) car, he discovered that the car belonged to N. K. Harris (Jim Sprague), his Father's employer. To complicate matters, Harris's daughter, Patricia (Margie Hollenbeck), was riding with Bill when he wrecked the car. The play was involved with solving Bill's troubles. Other members of the cast were: Marilyn McLane, Peggy Ross, Marie Flynn, Buster Spaniola, JoAnn Braid, Phil Gidley, Dave Morris, Lela Cummings, Roberta Spore and Fiona Whitbread.



**Clarence R. Lubbers  
Superintendent**



**1953**

**Ralph L. Stull**  
**Principal**



**1953**



**Paul Akins**  
**Industrial Arts**



**1953**

# Charles Alexander Speech



1953

**Holger Andersen**  
**Bio, Ag, Am Lit**



**1953**

**Walter Cole  
Band, Glee Club**



**1953**

**Raymond Dennis**  
**Soc Studies, Chemistry**



**1953**

**Margaret Ross  
English**



**1953**

**Eloise Tobin**  
**Home Economics**



**1953**

**Ida Woods  
Mathematics**



**1953**



**End**