

MHS 1964 Class Notes

Issue - July 2017

Continue to send your personal news to classnames@miltonhighclassof1964.com for future publication.

Please keep your contact information up-to-date by emailing changes to info@miltonhighclassof1964.com.

If you have moved, or changed email addresses or phone numbers recently, please make sure our class database is current.

Nancy Berger Wluka and **David Wluka** write from Sharon, MA: "Enjoyed a wonderful weekend celebrating our grandson Zachary's graduation from high school. This fall he will be attending Roger Williams in Rhode Island, majoring in biotech. Grandma Brenda Wluka came from Florida; we are fortunate to enjoy this remarkable woman. David is working hard and spending time with political and housing issues for the MA Real Estate Board and National Real Estate Board. Nancy is creating more time to paint! Traveling is in our future."

Dennis 'Moose' Brogna writes from Murrells Inlet, SC: "I went to Las Vegas, June 3rd to 10th, to enter the World Series of Poker. This was something I wanted to do as part of my bucket list, so I did it. I entered an event called Colossus 111. This event had 6 flights and I was in the last flight. Of the 3,935 players in my flight, I ended up 839. The money cut line was 639. Although I didn't win any money, it was an interesting experience, and I'm glad I had the chance to do it."

Brad Buck sends this note from Okatie, SC: "Nothing particularly interesting to report. Myself, and my wife, who is currently baby sitting our grandson in PA, will be coming to Mass. for three weeks. I'll be leaving here this Wednesday, June 7th, heading to McDonald, PA, to pick up my wife and our grandson. We'll then continue on to Mass. Since the South (SC) is now into its hot and humid months, it will be a nice change to come north and experience some cooler, and less humid, weather. I just hope that it doesn't rain too much while we're in Mass. I hope that all of my classmates are well and looking forward to a nice summer."

Bob Cadigan writes from South Boston, MA: "Enjoying working part-time in a work environment that is productive and non-stressful. Time of life to think back on all the different things we all did at various times of our lives--probably all of which have had some value and worth in their own right. Now enjoying visiting my daughter in Seattle and son in LA, and enjoying what those cities have to offer. My daughter is a PhD in psychology at University of Washington and my son is a product liability attorney in LA. I still live in South Boston and enjoy my frequent walks (used to be runs) to Castle Island and special events and talks at JFK Library. I am blessed to have pretty good health now . . . but I know that at our age anything can happen tomorrow--so enjoy today. I see a few of our MHS friends once in awhile, and it is really nice when that happens. I do think we had something really special about our time in Milton and at MHS. Looking forward to seeing all at our next reunion get-together."

Bill Cook writes from West Palm Beach, FL: "I am enjoying a wonderful retirement in West Palm Beach with my bride and best friend of 48 years Harriet. We travel extensively and have just spent 2 weeks sharing a house with friends in Provence, France, and enjoying some great Rhone wines. Every summer we spend time in New England visiting friends and family. My mom Edith Cook is still going strong and will be celebrating her 96th birthday in July. We will be in Ogunquit, Maine, in August with my son Scott and his family. My grandsons Tabor (6) and Rogan (4) love the beach and the great sea food. All the best to each of you." [See photo following.]



Ron Enholm relates that he and wife Christie enjoyed a 15-day Panama Canal cruise in late January, starting in their hometown of Los Angeles and ending in Miami after stops in Mexico, Central America and Colombia. The canal transit took ten hours, with locks on the Pacific side elevating ships to a lake in the center of the isthmus and locks on the Caribbean side lowering the ships to sea level. The cruise was followed by a four-day tour to Havana. Cuba has suffered terribly from the US embargo and the collapse of the USSR, but the people have remained proud, resilient and hopeful. Some areas of Old Havana are crumbling due to neglect, yet other areas display a well-maintained and rich Spanish architectural heritage. The vintage American cars are ubiquitous in the city, and are rentable for sunset tours (see photo following).



Peter 'Greg' Fall writes from Milton, MA: "Hoping this finds all our classmates and their families doing well. I've had four surgeries since last August, two at a time, twice. Still recuperating at home, but getting a little stronger each day. I get out to shop or just to walk about twice a weekend, thanks to my VERY kind neighbors--three in particular. My late sister Elinor's family has been growing . . . the great-grands now! She passed away just a month before the first one was born. My brothers are all doing well, better than I am, for the most part--and I'm the youngest! I keep in touch with classmate **Arlene Pearlstein Haasis** by email and Facebook. She lives in California with her husband and son. Other than Arlene, I haven't connected with any others, though there are several I would like to chat with again. God bless, and stay well!"

Ken Geromini sends the following note from Hampden, MA, a small town in the western part of the state between Sturbridge and Springfield. "I retired two years ago from a career in healthcare management and love every minute of retirement. Many people ask me what do I do and I reply, "I get up every morning and do whatever I want to do." My wife Bonnie and I have been traveling back and forth from our house in Hampden to a place we have in Falmouth. Slowly, I am returning to the East Coast and leaving Western Mass. Retirement gives you time to keep both your mind and body fit. I picked up a part-time adjunct professor position teaching at American International College in Springfield. It keeps the mind going. And as far as the body, I have been fortunate to continue to play squash and compete in a number of rowing regattas. Most recently, I competed in the world indoor rowing championships at Boston University Arena in February and placed 7th in my age category. Rowing in the "Head of the Charles" is still on my bucket list. I enjoy the Class Notes and encourage all to continue writing. Thanks to all involved with publishing and sending them out."

Eliot Gilbert provides this extended update from Dallas, under the heading of "Do It While U Can." "Having had a great time in Ireland last summer playing the old links courses, my Texas golf buddies and I planned a week-long trip to a US golf destination this spring. We decided to stay and play on Kiawah Island in South Carolina in May before it got too hot, humid, buggy and crowded with young children and their golfer parents. Kiawah has 5 golf courses, one of which will host the US Open for the second time in 2021. Like our Ireland trip, when the wives found out the destination had white sand beaches, a 5-star hotel with spa, weather in the low 80s, and high-end shopping in near-by Charleston, they insisted on coming. We rented a 5-bedroom home with a pool, spa, elevator and daily maid service on Kiawah rather than stay at the hotel or rent separate condos.

We nearly had a catastrophe when we arrived at the Charleston airport. My friend, who was in charge of transportation, told us he had booked a fantastic deal for a 15-seat van. Unfortunately, he found out at the rental counter that he had booked it for Charleston, West Virginia! The counter agent saved the day by finding the same size van and renting it to us at a minivan rate.

The golf courses were challenging, having a lot of water and sand hazards and indigenous residents. The first day we played we encountered 7 alligators! I'm sure they were used to having golfers around, but we kept our distance anyway, since running at our age is not much of an option. We played 4 courses including the Oceans course that will host the US Open. The 5th course was being renovated. All of them were in pristine condition, and the weather couldn't have been better the entire week.

Within a 40-minute drive from Kiawah Island you can be in downtown Charleston. We went into town several times, soaking up the historical sites from the Revolution through the Civil War, going on board the aircraft carrier Yorktown at the Naval Museum and eating at some fantastic restaurants. My son's college buddy, who is a Charleston resident and local attraction himself at 6'-4", 280 lbs., took us to some non-touristy places like the oldest establishment in North America continuously selling alcohol (complete with prohibition era tunnels in the basement), a cigar bar where he and we had a couple of Cuban Montecristos, and a tavern where he said he and my son did some underage drinking in college. While there, he showed me a wall with a 12-ft. drop he said they jumped over one night to avoid being carded by the police. Hmm . . . Never heard that story!

If anyone is interested in going on one of our future golf trips let me know, as 1 or 2 of the current group may have to drop out because of knee and/or hip-replacement surgery. Actually, one of them had hip replacement surgery 2 years ago, but his golf game has gotten so bad we may have to shoot him. Retirement is great, getting older is not!"

Ellen Jones Christie sent this note in February from Dartmouth, Mass. She had just returned from Chile. "I cannot say enough about Chile. It's a country that's as long as the US is wide. We used Santiago as our home base (a city of 7 M--it looks a lot like any big city--smartly dressed people with briefcases and cell phones attached to their ears!). We flew north to the Atacama Desert, the driest place on earth, and also went to the coast. My friend Fran Levin, who traveled with me, said "I don't have to go to California to see Big Sur because the Chilean coast looks exactly like it." Then we flew down to Patagonia; we watched a glacier calf. All in all, a trip not to be forgotten.

That was the end of 2016. I started 2016 getting my second knee replaced (now I always set off the airport detectors), went to Brittany and Normandy in May, took my daughter to Ireland in August and then to Chile. I just came back from the Dominican Republic where my sister and I celebrated our birthdays--we were born on the same date, 2 years apart. Our cousin and classmate **Marty McGowan Marlowe** was with us for a few days. We always try to get together once a year, just us, no family, and we have a ball! I'm home now for a few weeks and will drive to Jacksonville to visit my daughter. In May, I'm going to Chicago for a friend's son's wedding and I've tentative plans to go to Madrid in September. I think turning 70 really hit me that there's no point in delaying travel--who knows when we can't do it any more?"

Joe LaCroix writes from Norwell, MA: "To celebrate my 70th birthday back in October, my siblings and family planned a ski vacation in March to Breckenridge, Colorado. This was another item on my bucket list. I made it to the Imperial Bowl, which boasts the highest chairlift in North America with an elevation of 12,840 feet. I got a T-shirt that says: "You don't stop skiing because you're old. You're old because you stopped skiing." Very grateful to have good health to enjoy my love for skiing. Fond memories of the MHS ski club and my teammates on the gymnastics team who encouraged me to try new adventures. Best wishes to everyone in Class of '64--enjoy the many gifts that life continues to give us."

Joyce Lennon McFadden sends this news from Hull, MA: "I'm not sure if I reported this last fall, so here goes! After being widowed for 15 years I married Jerry Manning MHS '61, who was also widowed. Our celebration took place September 11th with 30 children, spouses and grandchildren present, as well as family and friends. All 14 grandchildren participated in the ceremony. After a honeymoon in Aruba, we traveled through VA, NC, TN, GA, FL in February and March. We will leave for UT, ID, WY and MT on June 6th for a couple of weeks. I'm excited about going to Montana since it's the only state I have not visited. I hope all our classmates are doing well in this crazy world. Peace to all."

David Pierce writes from Montverde, FL: "Last month my wife and I rented a villa for two weeks in a small Umbrian town in Italy called Panicale. It is a thousand-year-old walled village that was so interesting and quaint. I have attached two photos for perspective. We also visited Assisi, Cortona (where "Under the Tuscan Sun" was filmed) and Orvieto. Amazing area of olive groves and vineyards. [See following photos.]



We are hosting for the Summer an orphan from the Ukraine. We cannot adopt this child, but desire to bring hope for a better future. We are planning to take her to Yellowstone to see the best of America and have rented a cabin just outside of the park for a week. My wife and I continue in our weekly jail ministry where we witness to inmates and try to bring change in their lives.”

Jimmy Rich offers this quick update from a new home: “Moved to Naples, FL. Living the dream. Summers in Ogunquit, ME. Hope everyone is healthy and living their dream.”

Joe Sidoti sends this note from The Villages, FL: “Hi all. Here is a commercial that I was the subject of for The Villages Health, our health care service here in The Villages, Florida. It was fun to do and took two whole days of filming. When I was way younger I did some leg and body modeling (when I had a body!!!!), but never this involved. What a great learning experience. <https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=0WkF47c28nc> “

Erna Stengel Baron wrote the following note from Israel in early February. “Hi, everybody. The last time I got in touch I was the grandmother of seven amazing grandchildren. Now, unbelievable as it seems, I am the grandmother of ten! I have another beautiful little girl who is now a year and a half, and in September twin boys joined the Baron family. I'm still somewhat in a state of shock over it. We now have five girls and five boys from the age of nine years down to four months old. I am truly blessed. They are what keep me sane in this world of chaos and virtual reality which is rapidly descending upon us. In fact, I think my tiny dot of a country might even be a little bit more sane than yours is right now. So stay safe and if you ever want to come visit, make sure to look me up. And if you want to know what ten grandchildren look like, I can show you eight from last April (Passover) and my two little ones in September (from the circumcision ceremony).” [See below photos.]



Under the heading of "Downsizing in Hollis, NH," **Henry Wifholm** and wife Anne write: "We now live at 64 Main Street (four houses down Main Street) amongst our boxes. Small boxes and large boxes, some opened and some may never be opened. We even have a double storage unit full of boxes--not to mention our cars, which live outside and in neighbors' extra bays because our garage is full of (what else?) boxes. I believe we've missed the true concept of downsizing along the way. Bless all of you who have done it right so many times. All our contact information is the same, so stop and see our cardboard jungle sometime."

Donna Winer Foster sends this news from Canandaigua, NY. "Jim and I just got back from a three-week trip out West. We visited Mt Rushmore, Glacier National Park, The Badlands, Yellowstone and the Grand Tetons. I remember reading about all these places growing up, but nothing prepared me for the grandeur and awesomeness of being up close and personal. Being in Glacier in Montana and seeing the snow-capped mountains in May was mind-blowing. Each park had its own uniqueness. In the Grand Tetons the mountain peaks were covered with snow and it was 70 degrees there. We stayed in a small rustic cabin in the woods by a lake and you could see the towering Tetons from the lake. It was a small vacation village with cabins, two restaurants, gift shop, general store and gas station. Perfect. If you have never seen any of these national parks they are a must see! Also, if anyone will be in the south Florida area in January, we usually have a little get-together of gals that graduated in 1964. Please contact me at donna60@hotmail.com. Stay well everyone and enjoy!"

Linda Zundell Novack and husband Stan write this note from Valencia, CA. "We checked off an item on our Bucket List in May: We took a cruise north along the California coast on the extremely luxurious cruise ship, the Crystal Serenity, to celebrate our 50th wedding anniversary. It was an amazing cruise that we will remember for the rest of our lives for its outstanding customer service and quiet elegance. "No stone was left unturned" in order to ensure our complete pleasure and comfort in every possible way. We definitely plan to take another cruise on the Crystal Serenity sometime soon. I wholeheartedly recommend it."

In Memoriam

If you hear of the passing of any any classmates, please let us know.

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