

September 2019

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Life & Times of the Rebels of '69

Class of 1969 Thornton Fractional Township South High School, Lansing, IL

East Coast, West Coast, North & South

Classmates Are Coming in for Our 50th Reunion Banquet!

Classmates are traveling in for our TFS Class of 1969 50th Reunion! They're coming from NV, GA, CT, TX, WI, FL, CA, VA, AZ, MN, SC, MI, IN, IL, and CANADA! Join us. It's a once-in-a-lifetime event!

Banquet Tickets—

\$75 through the cut-off date of Sept. 15

Get your banquet tickets online

**[Click here or copy and paste into your browser window
tfsouth.ticketbud.com/50th-reunion](#)**

The TF South Class of 1969 50th Reunion Party will be held at

-Villa Cesare, 900 Eagle Ridge Drive, Schererville, Indiana

-Saturday, Oct. 5, 2019

-6 pm to midnight.

The banquet will be a family style dinner of soup, salad, bread, entrees of braised beef and chicken piccata, carrots and roasted baby potatoes, bow tie diablo pasta, cake and



ice cream, and coffee and hot tea.

-Cash bar

-Dinner served at 7 pm

-Dress is business casual

-DJ spins our favorite 60s & 70s music beginning at 6 pm for your dancing and listening pleasure

-Group photo at 6:45 pm. Photo immediately available to you for \$20. The photographer will also take small group photos by your arrangement.

A Block of Hotel Rooms has been secured for Oct. 3–6, 2019, at the following 3 hotels:

-The Hampton Inn, Schererville, IN

-Holiday Inn Express, Schererville, IN

-Comfort Inn, Schererville, IN

When making your reservation, tell them you are with the TFS Class of '69 Reunion.

[Our special rate expires Sept. 3.](#)

Hotel information can be found on our website tfsclassof69.weebly.com

You may extend your stay beyond these dates and still take advantage of the discounted pricing. All 3 hotels are near the Saturday night banquet venue.

Uber/Lyft share rides are available to and from all 3 hotels.

A 50th Reunion Message from Our TFS School-Tour Guide

I am extremely excited for your upcoming school tour on Friday, Oct. 4 at 4 pm! The tour will begin at the main entrance at the front of the school. Our Rebel store will be open for you to purchase TFS merchandise. We have t-shirts and sweatshirts plus assorted other T.F. South gear. However, we only accept cash!

If anyone wants to bring in T.F. South memorabilia to donate to our History Club's Rebel Relics display case, please bring the items to the tour or contact me at croberts@tfd215.org beforehand. The new display case will be finished shortly after the school year begins and we hope to display many historic items throughout the school's history.

Finally, let us know how many people will attend the tour. I want to make sure that the tour is everything you guys ask for, and I want to make sure there are enough current students there to help answer any questions. Family members are welcome, too. Thank you so very much!!

—Christopher Roberts (TFS '02)
TFS Social Studies Teacher
Sponsor of The History Club/Mock Trial



MOGC! **More Opportunities to Gather & Celebrate!**

Join us as we gather & celebrate with classmates, friends, & family at the following 50th Reunion events!

Here's the list of our 50th Reunion events.

More details and information are on

—our class website tfsclassof69.weebly.com

—our ticket buying website tfsouth.ticketbud.com/50th-reunion

Chicago River Boat Architecture Tour

Thursday, Oct. 3

Board the boat at 10:15 a.m

\$24 per person + service fee

Tickets at our ticket buying website tfsouth.ticketbud.com/50th-reunion

Wendella Boats

400 N Michigan Ave, Chicago, IL

Tour Departs at 10:45 am. Returns at 12:15 pm.

Experience the city's legendary architecture as you enjoy a boat ride on the Chicago River.

www.wendellaboats.com/parking

Or...The South Shore Electric Train #214 from Hegewish will get you to Millenium Station, State and Randolph at 8:58 a.m. It's a 15-minute to walk to the Wendell Tour Boat.

www.mysouthshoreline.com/

TFS Golf Outing

Friday, Oct. 4

8 am to noon

\$30 for 18 holes and cart

Lansing Country Club (Sportsman Club)

18600 Wentworth Ave., Lansing, IL

RSVP online through tfsouth.ticketbud.com/50th-reunion

Pay at the LCC Pro Shop

Meet at Lansing Country Club by 7:45 a.m.

lanscc.com/

TFS Class of '69 Guided School Tour

Friday, Oct. 4

4 pm

Free

Tour begins at the main entrance at the front of TFS

18500 Burnham Ave., Lansing, IL

Re-live the scene of your youth and see how our high school has grown and improved. Tour includes a pause at the Wall of Honor.

tfd215.org/south/aboutus/wall-of-honor/

RSVP through Ticketbud tfsouth.ticketbud.com/50th-reunion

Families welcome

Friday Night Pre-Reunion Gathering

Friday, Oct. 4

Starting at 6:30 pm

Lencioni's Pub

3325 Glenwood Dyer Rd., Lynwood, IL

(708) 757-4304

Our own classmates, Bill Hutchison and Dean Groom and their band Lake Effect, will begin playing playing at 7:30. A party room will be available for visiting. Food and beverage available for purchase.

Families welcome

Al's Self-Guided Magical Mystery Tour of Lansing

Saturday, Oct. 5

Free

Pick up your self-guided tour info at the Lansing Historical Society located in the Lansing Public Library, 2750 Indiana Ave, Lansing, IL

Hours 9 am to 5 pm

www.lansinghistoricalsociety.org/

50th Reunion Banquet Party

Saturday, Oct. 5

6 pm to midnight

Villa Cesare

900 Eagle Ridge Dr., Schererville, IN

Buy tickets online at tfsouth.ticketbud.com/50th-reunion

More information at the top of this newsletter

Grade Skool Bowl-e-Rama

Sunday, Oct. 6

Noon to 3 pm

\$15 at the door

Lan-Oak Lanes

2524 Ridge Rd, Lansing, IL

lan-oak-lanes.business.site/

A farewell event to evoke all the best memories of our childhood in Lansing!

RSVP through Ticketbud

tfsouth.ticketbud.com/50th-reunion

Families welcome



Questions about events?

Email the Reunion Committee at tfs69.50threunion@gmail.com

50th Reunion FAQs—

What Do I Wear to the Banquet?

Our Oct. 5 Banquet is business casual. Wear what makes you comfortable. If you want to dress up even more, go ahead. If you want to wear your 50th Reunion t-shirt, OK. This evening is about reconnecting with classmates, enjoying food and drink together, and rockin' to the music of the 60s. Join us as we gather and celebrate!

Where Do I Stay?

Find hotel information on our class website tfsclassof69.weebly.com by clicking "50th Reunion Hotel Info" tab at the top of the webpage.

How Do I Get Banquet Tickets?

Make your Reservations and Ticket purchase online.

Go to tfsouth.ticketbud.com/50th-reunion

Will There be a Group Photo?

Smile! The group photo will be taken at 6:45 at the Banquet and will be immediately available for purchase for \$20.

Where Is My Invitation?

Your invitation, reservation forms, and up-to-date information and website links are

on our website, Facebook page, and in our Life & Times Newsletters and your email inbox. Tickets and event registrations are at tfsouth.ticketbud.com/50th-reunion

Where Do We Meet for the School Tour?

Meet at the main entrance of TFS at the front of the school.

Is Our TFS Tour Accessible to Those with Mobility Disabilities?

Yes, the TFS High School main entrance and first floor tour are ADA accessible. The elevator will be available if a second floor visit is requested.

Anything Else I Can Do?

Yes. Please share our TFS 50th Reunion information with classmates that you are in touch with or see about town. Help us make sure that no '69 Rebel will be left out.

Life & Times Heard from...

Linda Collins Reif (TFS '70)—I hope you all have a wonderful time at your 50th reunion!

Ken Hanes's Art on Parade

Many classmates follow the second career of **Ken Hanes** (Indiana) as he posts his art on Facebook, and many have Ken's art hanging in their homes. His art has also enhanced our Life & Times newsletters and Christmas card.

On Monday, Sept. 9, at 6 pm, you can see more of Ken's art at Lencioni's Bar & Banquets, 3325 Glenwood-Dyer Rd., Lynwood, IL, when The Bear's-Lair (aka Ken Hanes) Painting Showcase will be displayed for your viewing pleasure.



Happy September Birthday!

Kathie Christian Bruesch, George Vincent, Judy Gasquoine Hudock, Robert Armstrong, Patricia Sartini, Kathy McGrath, Keith Gardner, Pam Neal Pfeffer, Christine Jacobs Burr, Katherine Nelson Mader, Len Rompca, Renay Vanderby, Janet Truman Clark, Dean Groom, Gina Langbeen Russell, Dale Robinson, Scott

Tatje, Donna Fazio Mrskos, Jim Vanderwoude, Larry Valent, Laura Merkel, Sharon Reid Kerley

Classmates Celebrating September Wedding Anniversaries



Dave & **Darlene Barzda Snell** (Florida)—
Celebrating 50 years of marriage!

Cindy (TFS '73) & **Dennis Knoerzer** (Missouri)—43 years
John & **Mary Ebbens Knighton** (Florida)—4 years
Dave Yoon & **Linda Jensen** (California)—26 years
Toodie & **Robert J. Murray** (Georgia)—21 years
Greg & **Kathy Neumann Smith** (Alabama)—38 years

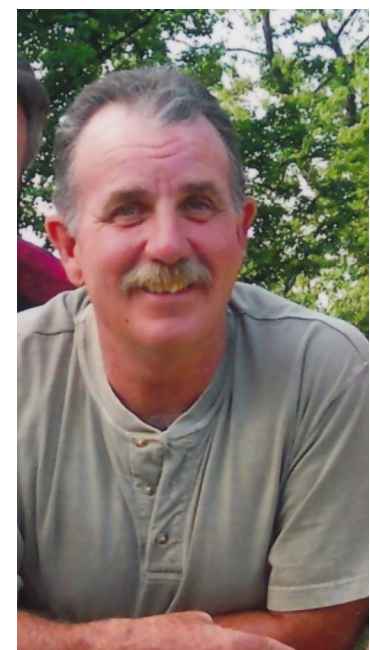
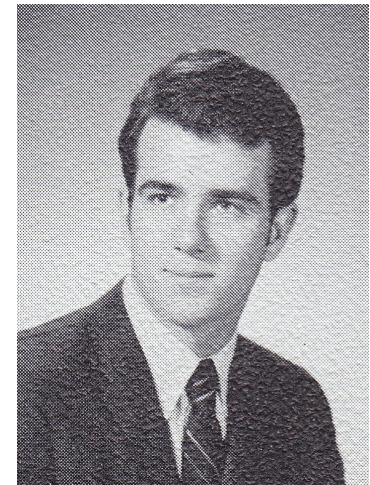
Sadly, We Report

James Bedell's wife, Sandra, wrote to inform us that our classmate Jim passed away in April 2019. Jim and Sandra moved to Missouri in the 1970s, where they raised their three children. He was a construction worker for Labor Local 955 in Columbia, Missouri and retired in 2010.

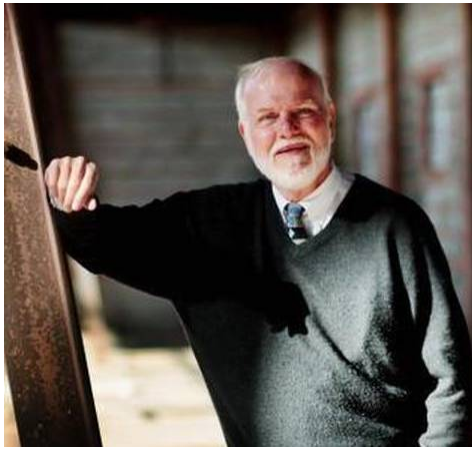
He loved racing of any kind and traveling all over the US. On his last trip in 2018, he rode his motorcycle to the top of Pikes Peak. He never knew a stranger and made a new friend everywhere he went.

Sandy says she was reading the comments in Jim's TFS yearbooks. "He was always the goofball everyone said he was. Always a joker and a teaser.

"Jim had a wonderful childhood growing up in Lansing. Fifty years out of high school is a long time. I hope you all have a great time getting together. Jim will be there in spirit with all of you."



Steve Schuster (1951–2019) Architect, Lansing Classmate



Our Indiana Avenue Elementary School classmate, Steve Schuster of Raleigh, NC, passed away in August. Steve went to school in Lansing through the 6th grade until his family relocated to Tennessee. Several classmates kept in touch with Steve over the decades or followed his architecture career. He was a shining star who contributed much to Raleigh, his profession, and his family and friends.

Here is an article in the Raleigh News & Observer about Steve's career [www.newsobserver.com/news/local/articleSteve Schuster](http://www.newsobserver.com/news/local/articleSteve%20Schuster) and Jerry Fritz's tribute to his grade-school classmate and life-long friend.

Memories of Steve

Second grade—Steve was the alpha-leader even then.

Cub Scouts— crafting the winning Pinewood Derby model car, a design unique even then and a prescient precursor of "bigger" projects to come.

His paper route marked him as an early industrious entrepreneur, even as he goofed-up by entrusting it to me during his vacation. (Ultimately, he forgave me—magnanimous trait he'd never outgrow.)

Mowing the field in back of his house so we could play 4-man baseball—so long as our only ball (that he owned) didn't go near the railroad tracks.

A star in orange & black (weird Halloween colors for a 6th grade basketball team), although he humbly noted that being the best player on the worst team was a low bar.

What wasn't low was a wonderful 60-year friendship. I'll miss my friend.

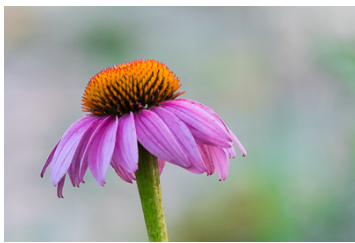
—Jerry Fritz (Virginia)



Jerry mentions the 1963 6th-Grade Indiana Avenue School basketball team in his memories of Steve. Here's the team—

Left to right, kneeling: Bruce Crawford, Jim Wagner, Rich Kuske, Craig Gutowski, John Stokes. Standing: Miss Cowsill, Geary Buchanan, Steve Schuster, Harry Smith, Henry Sterk, Tony Stoklosa, and an unnamed adult.

Heartfelt Condolence...



to Jack and Carol Bendell Wiers and their family on the passing of Jack's mother, Reba Louis Hensley Wiers, in July at the age of 101. Mrs. Wiers lived her years with grace, kindness, and a deep sense of caring for others. Jack writes, "It is difficult to envision our family without her, and we won't. She was our family's foundation. She will always be with us."



We're Always Looking for Classmates

With your help, every now and then, we find another classmate with whom we've lost contact. That's why we keep looking. If you are in contact with anyone listed below, or if you forward the newsletter to a classmate, let us know at TFSouth69@gmail.com. We'd like to invite them to the 50th Reunion and to subscribe to the Life & Times.

Linda Hill Huggy
Anne Hildebrand Timm
Donna Hielema Slager
Joan Hein Carlson
Patricia Hastings
Randy Hartge
Tom Harrington

Nancy Hansen Ledford
Penny Griffin Deren
Tim Greider
Shirley Goluska Hoener
Chris Gallion
Debra Freeman Adams
Art Fotschky

Stay in Touch

Help us keep our Class of '69 database current. Send changes in your phone number and email and snailmail addresses to TFSouth69@gmail.com

Our 227 classmates and friends of the class stay in touch by subscribing to our free monthly newsletter. Not subscribed? You can sign up at our website tfsclassof69.weebly.com or send an email to TFSouth69@gmail.com.



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Editorial: TFS TEAM69 Communications
Photos and Images from: TFS Class of 1967, Craig Gutowski, Ken Hanes, TFS 69Postscript, Jerry Fritz,
BillHutchisonPhotography.com

Send Your News to the Life & Times

We love hearing from you and about you. Email us TFSouth69@gmail.com or message us at our Facebook page [Tfsouth Classofsixty-nine](https://www.facebook.com/TfsouthClassofsixty-nine)

 **Click here to forward the Life & Times to friends & family**

 [Tfsouth Classofsixty-nine on Facebook](#)

 [Our Website tfsclassof69.weebly.com](http://tfsclassof69.weebly.com)

Mission of the TFS Class of 1969: To promote and grow our network of TFS Class of 1969 friendships by sharing information and planning reunion events to keep the spirit of the 40th Reunion alive and vibrant.

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