



News of the Month for August 2008

Memorial High School Class of 1959

Eau Claire, Wisconsin



Dear MHS Classmates,

A few weeks ago, Dave Hulett sent in a photo of the people from our class who were confirmed at First Congregational Church in Eau Claire to add to the “Religious Life” section on our website. Of course, before it went on the website, Steve Loken wanted to make sure the names of all of the people in the picture were correct – including the woman on the far left and the man on the far right. Working together via our computers, Louie Arnold, Dave, Steve, and I could name everyone except the woman on the left. We knew she was the Director of Religious Education at church during the fifties, but we couldn’t quite get her name to “surface” in our memories. I took a guess and suggested that her last name might be “Fancher.” An answer came back from Louie, who said that he thought that was correct, and he believed her first name to be “Mae.” Dave agreed. Just to be sure, I called and verified the information with the office manager at church. We were right!!

Feeling good about our great memories and correct information, I emailed Louie, Dave, and Steve, and said, “Who says old people don’t have good memories!” Wow! Did I get email back from them on that!!

Louie said that he belonged to the “Old Goats” and the “Old Farts,” but he was certainly not part of a group called “Old People.”

Dave said, “What ‘old people’ are you talking about? The Class of 1959 is just getting warmed up for greater achievements!”

And Steve agreed with the other guys – asking, “Who’s old?”



So, Classmates, I’ve learned a lesson. Despite the fact that some of us have gray hair or no hair, have put on a “few” pounds since high school, wear thicker glasses or have added hearing aids, are called “Grandma” or “Grandpa” and seem to have one or two more aches and pains than we used to, **WE ARE NOT OLD!!** We are members of the Eau Claire Memorial High School Class of 1959, and we will never be old because we have lifetime friends who won’t let us get old. It doesn’t matter that Louie lives in Ohio, Dave in Florida, and Steve in Minnesota; they let me know – loudly and clearly – that we are still eighteen years old in spirit! So keep that in mind as you are planning to come back to Eau Claire for the 50th Class Reunion in 2009. You’re coming back to see “old” friends who are “young” in spirit with a life-time of experiences and good fellowship to share – and they are all your age!

Carolyn Gabrielsen Barstad

4292 Mill Ridge Circle
Eau Claire, WI 54703

cjbarstad@charter.net
715-835-5080

