

# News of the Month – May 2012

## Class of 1959

### Memorial High School Eau Claire, Wisconsin



May 1, 2012

Dear Classmates,

With lots of sunshine and spring weather in Wisconsin, it's a good time to remind all of you who might be traveling to Eau Claire during the next few months that "Lunch at Mogie's" is still in full swing. In fact, a couple of classmates who haven't been there before came to the April Mogie's Lunch. As you can see from the recent Mogie's pictures on this website, Charlie Gorton and Judy Christeson Atkinson were there in April, and they said they had a good time, so maybe they will be back again. Hopefully, you will too. The Class of 1959 Mogie's Lunch is on the second Thursday of every month at 1:00 p.m., at Mogie's on Water Street. If you enter from the front door on Water Street, walk all the way back to the room at the rear of the bar/restaurant. You'll be greeted by many welcoming voices and lots of good food and drink.

There is some other good news this month about our classmate, Jim Kosmo. Jim wrote a book, *Still Standing: The Story of SSG John Kriesel*. Mr. Kriesel lost both legs in a roadside bomb explosion while serving in Iraq. Jim Kosmo wrote the story as told to him by Kriesel. The book has won eight national book awards. You can find more information and a link to the April 15, 2012, *Leader-Telegram* newspaper articles about it at "What's New?" on this website. Many of you will especially enjoy the comments Pearl Landfair made to Jim about his writing ability when we were all students at Memorial High School. Jim was in Eau Claire on April 30, 2012, and he talked to several groups about the book. Our congratulations to John Kriesel and to Jim Kosmo for a great book!

I've also been involved in a much smaller writing project during the last months, and I thought some of you who have asked me about my sister, Faye, through the years, might be interested. A couple of people from the Chippewa Valley Museum asked to interview me about polio – especially asking questions about Faye, and her life with polio. They wanted to use the information for a "History of Medicine in the Chippewa Valley" project, so we spent some hours together. Then Jim Alf, brother of our classmate, Rod Alf, put together the information in written form, and, when he finished, he asked me to edit it. It is now posted on the CVM website, *ChippePedia.org*. You'll find it under "polio" if you'd like to read it. One of the major reasons I'm mentioning it here is I have found out, as a result of this project that, in recent years, MANY children are not being inoculated or given vaccines by their parents to protect them from polio and other serious diseases. People who work with children are worried that polio may come back, in epidemic form, if young parents don't safeguard their babies. So, if you have children, grandchildren, or great-grandchildren, and they have not had the Salk Vaccine against polio, please step-in, and make sure they do. No one should ever have to have polio again!

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