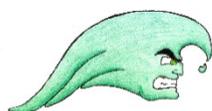




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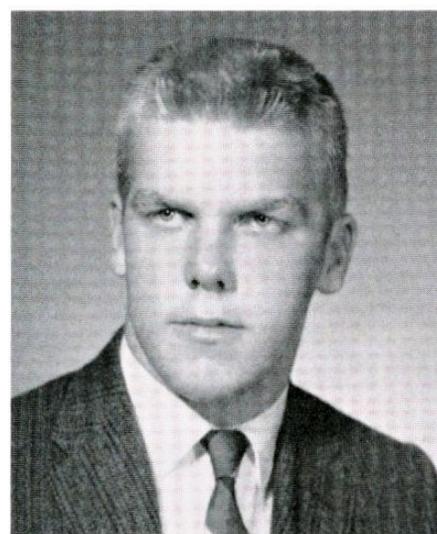
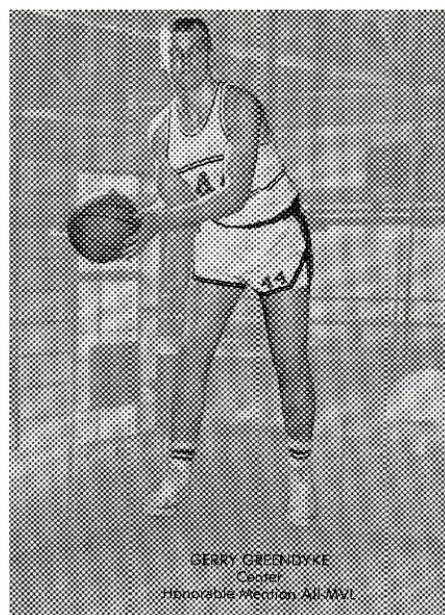
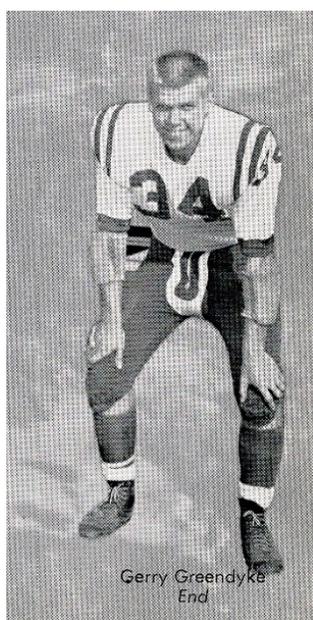


Gerry Greendyke's Memory is Honored with a Highway Dedication

First Lieutenant Gerald Bruce "Gerry" Greendyke (June 1, 1942 – Feb. 3, 1968) graduated in 1960 and excelled in football and basketball (four years each), and three years of track, at GHS. His family, **James** and **Dorothy Greendyke**, moved to Greenville from the Chicago area in 1957, along with his siblings, **Jim Greendyke**, GHS 1958, **Doree Greendyke Lee**, GHS 1964, and **John Greendyke**, GHS 1966. Gerry was able to attend Miami University on a football scholarship after high school graduation. He left Miami before his graduation and joined the U.S. Army.

Gerry's high school yearbook pictures:

(Football end, Honorable Mention All-MVL as the Basketball Center, and Senior picture):



Gerald Greendyke

Page 2

Gerry served in Iran in the early '60s when the two countries got along with each other better than they do at present. Then the Shah of Iran ruled the country. Gerald was Military Police (MP), and also participated on the Middle Eastern All-Star Basketball Team. This was allegedly a front to allow those on the team to spy on the Russians, who were nearby to the north. Gerry had married **Patricia "Trish" Brown Greendyke**, from Arcanum, and they had a daughter **Tracy** and a son **Gavin**. Gavin was born in Iran.

After leaving Iran, he went back to Miami, but left again to go to the U.S. Army Officer Candidate School (OGS) and became an Artillery Forward Observer. While going through this training, John made the decision to become a Marine. Gerald called brother John and asked him to come and visit. John recalled it was an effort to get him to change his mind about being a Marine. Little did John know at the time, but that would be the last time John would ever see his brother.

Gerry with mother Dorothy and daughter Tracy (right) >>>

Gerry was deployed to Vietnam in August of 1967. Brother John was also in Vietnam at that time as part of his 26-month duty there. Within two months after arriving in Vietnam, Gerald displayed heroism on Oct. 22, 1967 during operation Shenandoah II. He was awarded posthumously the bronze star medal with the "v" device in March, 1968.

For gallantry in action against a hostile force, of Feb. 2, 1968, Lt. Greendyke was serving as an artillery forward observer attached to an infantry company that was participating in the seal of the western half of the village of An-My. As a lead platoon was moving into the area adjacent to the village, they were subject to intense fire by a large well concealed Viet Cong force. Lt. Greendyke, along with the command group, dashed through the enemy fire toward the point of contact. He then began to call in friendly artillery support upon the insurgent positions. As he was adjusting the artillery fire, a large Viet Cong force flanked the command group's position and placed concentrated fire upon them. His radio-telephone operator fell wounded, and despite the intense hostile fire, Lt. Greendyke immediately began to administer first-aid. The numerically superior Viet Cong force began to close in his position but Lt. Greendyke remained at his wounded radio-telephone operator's side, firing his weapon and administering aid. He was told to pull back but he refused to leave the wounded man and continued to adjust devastating artillery fire upon the insurgents. The large Viet Cong force finally overpowered the smaller group's position and Lt. Greendyke fell mortally wounded. First Lt. Greendyke's unquestionable valor in close combat against numerically superior hostile forces is in keeping with the finest traditions of the military service and reflects great credit upon himself, the 1st Infantry Division, and the United States Army. He was awarded posthumously the Silver Star medal on March 8, 1968.

"On Feb. 3, 1968, during the Tet Offensive, Gerry was out on patrol when another patrol came under heavy fire. Gerry's patrol went to help, but their position was overrun," said John.



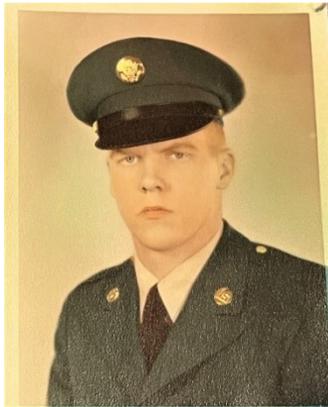
Gerry in Iran--1962 (above)



“They were outnumbered. I couldn’t tell you how bad the numbers were. They were severely outnumbered.”

Gerald left behind his wife Tricia and two children, **Tracy**, GHS 1980, and **Gavin**, GHS 1982. (**Joe Brown**, from Arcanum, later married Trish and adopted the two Greendyke children).

John said he volunteered to go to Vietnam so his brother would not have to go because he had a wife and two kids. “Unannounced to me, Gerry volunteered to go so I wouldn’t have to go. So, we both screwed ourselves,” comments John. John still has not talked with any of Gerald’s fellow soldiers. With his radio man being shot, Gerry was calling in airstrikes and giving his unit’s position, when attacked.



Gerry, Trish, Tracey and Gavin



John was only a week away from seeing his brother. They had plans to meet each other in-country (Vietnam) on R & R, but instead, John said his commander called him to talk with him. The commander said he had bad news. John thought it was that he was going to lead his unit into battle. Instead, he said, “Your brother’s dead.” He was told a helicopter would be there in 15 minutes with his orders to take him home.

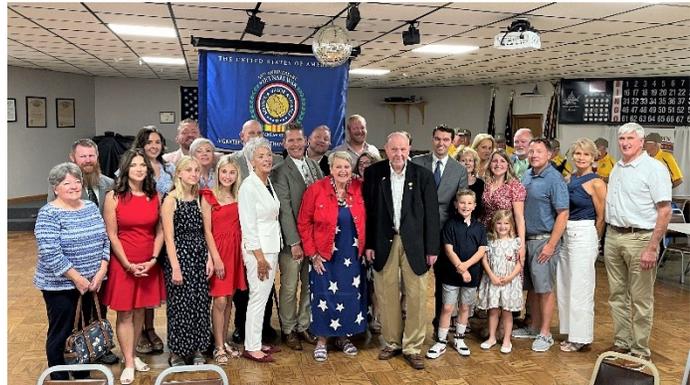
“When I came home, nobody knew he was dead, but me,” said John. “They thought he was Missing in Action. That was how they had to report it because they didn’t have his body, or it hadn’t been processed through. There were so many things going on, death-wise, and they were backed up. When I got home, I got the lovely pleasure of telling them all of that. It was another two months before they got his body home. I think we buried him in late April or early May.”

Gerry’s wife Trish passed away approximately 20 years ago. “She never quite got over that whole mess,” he said.

After their brother **Jim** died in 2018, John decided to work on the process of naming part of a highway in memory of Gerald. This took four years and involved some government and private organizations cooperating to move this along. The Fort Greene Ville Chapter of Daughters of the American Revolution’s (D.A.R.) Vice Regent **Debbie Wright Nisonger**, GHS 1980, requested this to be done and the Ohio State Senate President **Matt Huffman** assisted in moving the bill through both chambers of the Ohio Legislature. Ohio Governor **Mike Dewine** gave the seal of approval on Section 5534.153 of Sub House Bill 578, Jan. 5, 2023.

On June 10, 2023, the Gerald Greendyke Memorial Highway Dedication took place at the Greenville Post 7262 of the V.F.W. banquet hall, with a large number of family and dignitaries

present. The Fort Greene Ville Chapter of the D.A.R. hosted this event. Master of Ceremonies was **Jim Buchy**, GHS 1958, and the extended Greendyke family was there in support. Speakers included **Debbie Nisonger**, **Rich Lovelady**, Vietnam War Commemoration Future and Current Operations, State Representative **Angie King**, of Ohio House District 84, and **Ben Thaeler**, representing the U.S. Congressman **Warren Davidson**, the D.A.R. and **Mike Borges**, President of the Vietnam Veterans Chapter 1126.



Left to right in the photo on the left, Gerry's sister, **Doree Greendyke Lee**, GHS 1964, son **Gavin Greendyke Brown**, GHS 1982, emcee **Jim Buchy**, daughter **Tracy Greendyke Brown Brooks**, GHS 1980, and brother **John Greendyke**, GHS 1966. On the right, the family and dignitaries.

The Wapakoneta VVA Chapter 1126 led the program at the V.F.W. Hall and offered a commendation and a light lunch and refreshments were served at the VFW hall. Afterwards, a motorcade procession led by Greenville Police Chief **Eric Roberts** traversed through town south on Sweitzer Street to the curve at the original Studebaker School at Heritage Road, where the sign is located. The four family members named above unveiled the sign to passing-by motorists and for the world to see from now on.



The unveiling
Of the sign
<<<<<

Family members
present >>>>>



John, Tracy, Gavin and Doree

Led by Darke County Sheriff **Mark Whittaker** GHS 1985, the motorcade then proceeded southeast on State Route 49 to Abbottsville Cemetery, where Gerald had been laid to rest in 1968. At the cemetery, some of Gerry's classmates from the GHS Class of 1960 placed a remembrance wreath, and the Darke County Honor Guard performed graveside honors and Taps. The 1960 classmates are identified here at the gravesite, from left to right:

Leanna King Swank (Franklin, IN), **R.J. Allread**, **Ted Williams** (Kettering, OH), **Alan McElwain** (Meadville, PA), **Larry Crider**, **Sharon Schlagetter McGreevey**, and **Helen Cohee Wright**. (below left)

The placement of the wreath is done by **Larry Crider** and **Alan McElwain**: (below right)



John Greendyke had planned this event for four years, and the Fort Greene Ville Chapter of the D.A.R. implemented necessary steps to make it happen. Thank you for making this a beautiful ceremony that will long be remembered, to the V.F.W. Post 7262, to the American Legion, the Fort Greene Ville Chapter D.A.R., and to the dignitaries present. Lt. Gerald Greendyke's sacrifice will always be remembered.

GHS Hall of Fame Member Jack Baldschun's Legacy

Jack Baldschun, GHS 1954, passed away June 6, 2023, after a lengthy battle with leukemia and other complications at age 86. He was the son of **Henry** and **Regina (Kruckeberg) Baldschun**.

In 1955, at age 18, Jack was signed to play professional baseball for the Nashville Volunteers, a minor league club with the Cincinnati Reds organization, after his freshman year at Miami University (Oxford). After spending the following year in Thibodaux, LA, in 1957, he played for the Wausau Lumberjacks in Wausau, WI. Here he met his future wife, **Charlotte Kolbe**. After dating during that season, Charlotte traveled to Florida the following year to be with Jack at spring training. The couple eloped on their way back north and were married in

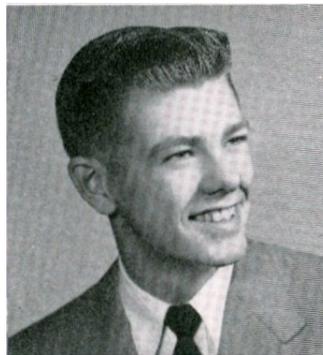
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Savannah, GA, on April 10, 1958. He played in Albuquerque and Topeka (1959) and developed a sore arm. A Reds all-time great pitcher, **Johnny Vander Meer**, was Jack's manager and convinced Jack to stay in baseball. Then Jack learned to throw a screwball, and this pitch made him successful in the major leagues. "I throw my screwball different from most pitchers," said Jack. "Most screwballs break on the same plane as a slider. Mine drops like a curveball thrown overhand by a lefthander."

Two years later they had their first child, a daughter **Kim**, who was born in Columbia, SC. After the 1960 season, Jack was traded to the Philadelphia Phillies organization, and they brought him up to the major leagues to be their closing relief pitcher. He made his MLB debut on April 28, 1961, for the Phillies. Phillies manager **Gene Mauch** said that Jack was the best relief pitcher in the National League in 1963. The Baldschuns second child, son **Brad**, was born in 1965 in the Philadelphia area.



High School
Yearbook >>
(1954)



In December, 1965, Jack was traded back to the Reds organization. Many baseball followers consider this one of the "worst trades in baseball history". In a three-way trade with the Phillies, the Baltimore Orioles and the Reds, **Jack**, **Milt Pappas**, and **Dick Simpson** were traded to the Reds for **Frank Robinson**. (The Phillies traded Jack to Baltimore a couple days before he was included in the trade for Robinson). The players the Reds received had careers that were in decline while Robinson went on to win the Triple Crown (most hits, home runs, and runs batted in, in the league in a season) in the American League. Jack's claim to fame was the screwball pitch he developed. Many batters thought that it was "unhittable". **Pete Rose** said he had an excellent screwball. After injuring his arm in 1967, he was sent down to the minor leagues to recuperate. He was eventually traded to the Oakland Athletics for the 1969 season, but, on the final day of spring training, he was traded again to a new expansion team, the San Diego Padres. His arm was never the same again and he eventually retired after the 1970 season. During his career, he was in the top ten pitchers in number of games pitched in five seasons, and the top ten in saves for three of his seasons. In nine seasons in the majors with the Phillies, Reds and Padres, Jack appeared in 457 games, compiling a record of 48-41 with 60 saves, and ERA of 3.69.

After retiring from baseball, Jack and his family returned to Charlotte's home state of Wisconsin, and settled in Green Bay where he joined his brother-in-law, **Charles Kolbe**, in the construction business. He became a salesman for Lumber Dealers Supply from 1973 until his retirement in 1998. Jack and Charlotte enjoyed traveling the country, golfing, and "snow-birding" in Florida, until she passed away in 2010. During his grief counseling, he met **Bonnie**

VandenBergh-Lokken, who had just lost her spouse. They married in 2015, and she became a constant caregiver, companion, and loving wife.

In high school, Jack participated in basketball, baseball and track. Interestingly enough, baseball was only a sport his freshman, sophomore and senior years. It disappeared Jack's junior year and was brought back under coach **Jim Eby** for Jack's senior year. Jack was quite upset that baseball was not played his junior year due to a lack of coaching then. The yearbooks during those years were printed up before the spring sports, senior awards, Proms, and Commencements took place and results were not pictured, so there is no record available for the baseball seasons.

GHS Baseball team returned in this 1954 picture, after a year absence in 1953 (this photo in the 1954 yearbook, below):



Row 1: Left to right—Gail Beisner, Tom Miller, Jack Harness, Jerry Ditmer, Gary Batten, Jim Hardeman, George Luce, Larry Franklin, Larry Michael.
Row 2: Left to right—Coach Eby, Don Cole, Jack Schaffer, Dan Taylor, Larry Noggle, Ronnie Newbauer, Dick Maxwell, Kent Shiverdecker, Jim Whittaker, Bill Bertram, Mike Norris.
Row 3: Left to right—Ronnie Hagaman, Jack Baldschun, Willie Beaver, Phil Browne.

Jack's induction into the GHS Athletic Hall of Fame in Feb. 11, 2017:

With Athletic Director **Dusty Yingst**:

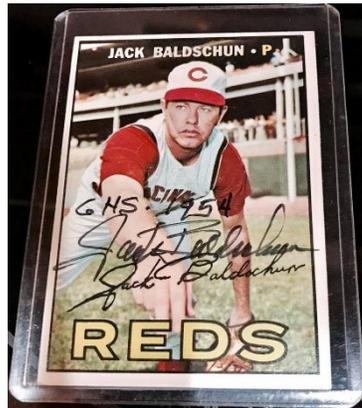


With his family in 2017,

Son Brad, Wife Bonnie, and daughter Kim:



Other Jack Baldschun baseball cards:



Editor's note: In a discussion with Pete Rose in 2017 and the AlumNews Editor, one month after Jack was inducted into our GHS Hall of Fame, Pete scowled at the mention of Jack's name because he was involved in the Frank Robinson trade. He did not dislike Jack, but Pete knew the Reds had made a huge blunder in making that 1966 trade, and at that time Pete was "Mr. Die-hard Red".

Velma Cox Lowder GHS 1943 and husband **Jack Lowder** on top of the Wayne Theater marquee at a time when they worked there. "Brewster's Millions" was a 1945 movie starring June Havoc and Dennis O'Keefe. It was a comedy.

>>>>>

We think this is a double header AlumNews issue with mentions of **Ray Junior Allread** twice, better known as **R.J. Allread**, and one of GHS's outstanding alumni from the Class of 1960.



John Schipfer Becomes President and CEO of Greenville Federal

For the first time in modern history memory’*, a GHS Alum has become head of the 140-year-old Greenville Federal Bank. **John Schipfer**, GHS 1990, has come back home after working in the banking industry for the past 28 years. He previously worked for Huntington Bank, National City Bank, then PNC Bank, and most recently Telhio Credit Union in Columbus. Chairman of the Board at Greenville Federal, **George Luce**, GHS 1980, proudly announced this good news and the next chapter in the Bank’s long history. John’s appointment as President and Chief Executive Officer started June 5, 2023.

Luce said in a press release, “The board is excited to welcome John Schipfer to Greenville Federal. A thorough search was conducted to find the best person to lead the company into the future and Schipfer stood out as the best candidate. In addition to his impressive banking experience, John has been an active member of his community as a baseball coach, Sunday School teacher, and volunteering in many capacities. His commitment to helping others achieve their best results, along with his hometown roots, makes him a great fit for the culture of our bank, and we are confident in his abilities to continue to grow and strengthen Greenville Federal.”

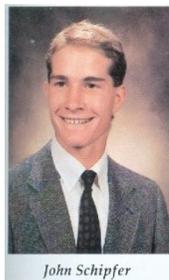
John was a chief information officer at his last assignment and has been involved with senior leadership positions where he had responsibility for the bank’s technology and risk management governance. He and his wife Marlo have lived in her hometown of Mechanicsburg, Ohio, where she is presently a school Principal. She will join John in relocating to Greenville as soon as possible. They met at Wittenberg University, where John graduated in 1994 and Marlo in 1996. John also earned an MBA at Franklin University. *John with Alumni President Dick Brown >>>*



They have four daughters. **Samantha** works at Wake Forest University, **Kasey** is a current student at and a prominent basketball player at Ohio Wesleyan University. **Elly** attends school in Kettering, OH. **Danielle** just graduated from Mechanicsburg High School and will attend Ohio State University.

In high school, John excelled in many activities, including being a class officer, on the Homecoming court, NHS Vice President, and a baseball and a basketball standout for four years each. His coach was current Greenville Schools Superintendent, **Doug Fries**.

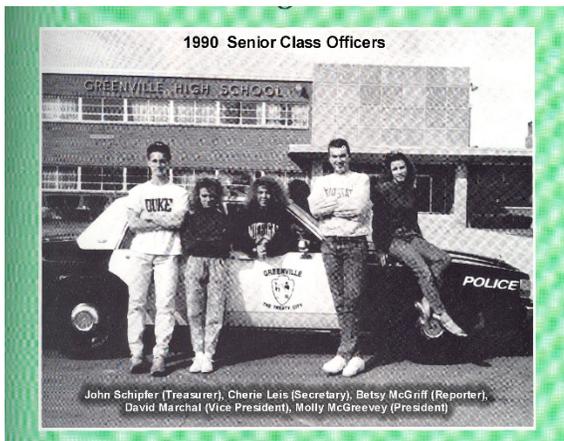
Senior picture:



John Schipfer



Varsity Boys Basketball: Bottom Row: K. C. Fahrback, John Schipfer, Jeff Gilmore, Mike Gilmore, Scott Greendyke, Shawn Durnell. Top Row: Jim Peltz, Brent Grillot, Jerry Bunch, Dave Peltz, Matt Caldwell, and Coach Doug Fries.



1990 Senior Class Officers

John Schipfer (Treasurer), Cherie Leis (Secretary), Betsy McGriff (Reporter), David Marchal (Vice President), Molly McGreevey (President)



Baseball: Back Row: Joe Szymanski, Nate Stephenson, Shawn Trissel, Shawn Marker, Jeff Gilmore, Paul Cromwell, John Schipfer, Roman Smith, Paul Stiers, Coach Finch. **Front Row:** Ryan Saylor, Brad Balsler, Sean Wood, Donnie Commer, Jeff Goldsmith.

*John had high school and college baseball success. One of his mentors was one of GHS earlier premier pitchers, **R.J. Allread**, GHS 1960, who taught John how to throw the curve and slider pitches.*

John's parents are longtime Greenville residents, **Dan** and **Marty Schipfer**. John has two brothers who are also outstanding and successful GHS alumni. **Dan Schipfer** (Jr.), GHS 1989, lives in the Kansas City area, is married, and has two children. **Matt Schipfer**, GHS 1993, is married to his GHS classmate, **Adrienne Kirkpatrick Schipfer** '93, and they live in Colorado Springs along with their five children.

"I'm excited to help our customers and community achieve their financial goals," says the new President, "and be a part of an organization that helps our employees to continue to grow."

Our community is fortunate enough to have the Schipfer family's contributions. We welcome John's leadership and look forward to a long and prosperous future with him and Greenville Federal.

*Partial history of the bank. Over the past 100 years:

Named Greenville Building Company (1923 to c.1950), categorized as Building and Loan

Greenville Federal Savings and Loan (c.1950-early 2000s)

Greenville Federal Bank (in recent years)

*Chief Executive Officers over the past 100 years (or earlier Secretary-Treasurer of Corp.):

David Harter Wheeler, 1923-1957

Wallace Vietor, 1958-1983

(continued)

Page 11 Greenville Federal CEOs continued:

Tom Middleton, 1984-1988

David Wolverton, 1989-1997

David Kepler, 1997-2008

Jeff Kniese, 2009-2023

John Schipfer, 2023- (only GHS graduate in past 100 years to hold this position)

Exchange Student Georg Stephan Jaschek

Georg Stephan Jaschek (Dec. 12, 1931 - May 19, 2023) was born in Meltsch, in the German area of Czechoslovakia, and was the youngest of five children. Their mostly German-village suffered difficult times during World War II, from Nazis, Russians and finally the Communists. After the War, all German people in the area were deported into Germany, and their property was confiscated. Life in Germany for these refugees was hard, but the local inhabitants did their best to absorb them.

Georg had only eight years of school before the war and two years of agricultural school in Germany. The Brethren Church brought many of these displaced persons after World War II to America, including Georg. Georg was raised a Catholic but headed to America as an exchange student for his senior year in the Greenville area, at Palestine High School (Westmont). His hosts were **Virgil** and **Ruth Deeter**, who lived on a farm west of Greenville, during this 1950-51 school year. After graduation, he returned to Germany for a year, and then was sponsored by the Deeters for immigration. He returned a year after he left. Although he worked on the farm for them, they took him along, with their children **Jim Deeter** (Palestine HS 1956) and **Janice Deeter**, on a family camping trip to California.

“America is where my opportunity lies,” Georg said about why he wanted to come back to America in 1952. He then spent two years milk testing in Maryland for the government. After returning to Ohio, he entered Ohio State University studying Dairy Technology.

At a single adults meeting in Greenville, he met the love of his life, Miss **Miriam Berthold**, who was an elementary teacher in Greenville from 1955 to 1958. Miriam had grown up in Lima and lived next door to the **Bonfiglio** family. **Richard** and **Ronald Bonfiglio** had bought Engelken’s Drug Store in that 1955 period. Miriam liked Greenville and followed the Bonfiglios to town at that time to live here. Georg and Miriam were married at the Zion Lutheran Church in Lima in 1958. They moved to Columbus where their three children were born, **Stephan** (1959), **Kathi** (1962), and **Kristi** (1964).

Georg worked for the Borden Company in Columbus in Dairy Technology. After moving to Lancaster and 14 years later, Georg became a teacher after taking courses at Ohio University. He was an elementary math and science teacher. The family lived on a farm, had beef cattle and a few riding horses, and enjoyed much traveling and camping during the summers. Every four years they made a trip to



Georg Jaschek

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Germany to see Georg's family. After retiring from their teaching careers, Georg and Miriam "Mickey" sold the farm to the State of Ohio to add to the adjacent Christmas Rocks Nature Preserve and moved to Eugene, Oregon in 1999. Two of their children and grandchildren lived there.

Georg is survived by his wife Miriam, all three children, two granddaughters, and two great-granddaughters.

Christmas Rocks Nature Preserve near Lancaster, Ohio, in Fairfield County, now, where Jaschek's homestead was located, since they sold it to the State of Ohio >>>



*Editor's note: Thank you to **John Hannah**, GHS 1959, and **Jim Deeter**, of Greenville, for their input into this glimpse of local history. John and Jim were friends from their 4-H days (in the 1950s). John also lives in Eugene, Oregon, like Georg Jaschek. Georg was not a GHS Exchange Student but had Greenville connections, and this reflects what life here in this time period was like.*

We can't think of a time when the City of Greenville has had more attractive Christmas lights than this year. This is a tribute to Mayor Willman and the city workers.

The Traffic Circle and
City Building
From different angles:



Broadway looking north >>>

Duane Edwards tree dedication plaque:



City Building (below) and Santa House located at the Circle (bottom)

The Community Christmas Tree in the Annie Oakley Park at the south end of Broadway was dedicated to Duane Edwards (below):

