

ALUMNNews

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President's Message

By Dick Brown, '64, dickbrown64@gmail.com

This summer there were 16 class reunions for the alumni of GHS, including the featured classes of 1964 (50th year reunion) and 1989 (25th year reunion). Since most of the reunions are sandwiched around the Fair, we will have most of the reunion pictures in the Spring, 2015, Newsletter. This year's Homecoming game is Friday, October 3, versus old-time rival, the Troy Trojans, at 7:30 PM. Please visit our alumni table inside the west entrance and meet old friends. The Parade will be the night before Thursday, October 2, at 6:30 PM, along Martin Street, north along Broadway to Harmon Drive, then east to the Band Shell. A pep rally follows with crowning of the new Chief Green Wave (a senior boy voted on by the students).

Our Annual Meeting of the Alumni Association will be held Monday, October 6, at 6:30 PM, at the Media Center, Room 146. Please come and give your input as to how we can be a better organization.

Our sixth annual Open House, May 5, was a resounding success with about 200 attendees. We will have another one, Monday, May 4, 2015, hopefully as before. It is a totally free event with refreshments and plenty of GHS memories. With major renovations in the high school building, location of this event will be determined later.

Photo to right :

The last new construction at GHS was the addition of the Vocational building, now known as the Career Technical Center, opened in 1979, with Mr. **Tony DiRocco**, principal, and Mr. **Clarence Gueth**, Vocational Director. This is a detached building, but is still part of the high school.



Photo at left :

The last expansion to the main building was in 1972, when the west and north wings were completed, forming the circle of classrooms with a courtyard. Mr. **Chester Gooding** was principal at the time. (photos of the 1980 vocational bldg. and the 1972 wing under construction aerial view)

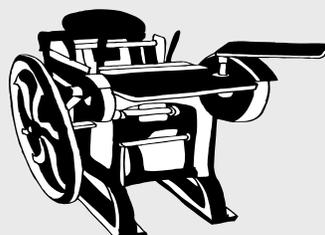


Above picture of Greenville High School with planned expansion of cafeteria

The High School building is currently going through another addition of approximately 3,400 square feet, primarily to the kitchen and cafeteria area. The cafeteria would expand from a seating only capacity of the present 420 to a new seating of 702 (not including the tables). This addition offers another location for students, teachers, and the community to hold concerted meetings or programs, during school time or evenings. Many interior improvements are updating the GHS building, which is now over 50 years old. The artist's rendering shows the cafeteria's extension to the present sidewalk.

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G.H.S. Vocal Music through the years

Part 1: 1909 – 1968, including *The Elizabeth Hill Years*

The music department at G.H.S. was first founded in the 1909-1910 school year under the able leadership of **Miss Evelyn Roberts**, who received her schooling at the Thomas Normal Training School in Detroit. She also was responsible for organizing the first orchestra in 1912, which consisted of five members and made its debut at the opening of the new South School building. The 1909 Echo first showed one of the first vocal music groups, the eight-man Octet. The first two clubs formed at G.H.S. were the Girls' Glee Club in 1909 and the Boys' Glee Club in 1910. The girls' society was organized by Miss Roberts, with all original members being seniors. They met and practiced at the homes of their friends. In 1909 the club sang before the high school and at Commencement exercises. In 1910, in addition to these events, they sang at Arcanum in the GHS vs. AHS debate. By 1911, there were 18 members from all classes of high school, with the Girls and Boys groups working together. **Beatrice Martz**, GHS '11, was the 1910-11 President of the Girls' Glee Club. The Boys' Glee Club was formed in the fall of 1910 for the purpose of increasing interest in music for the high school boys. In addition to singing at the high school, they performed at various churches and added a large amount of "evening serenading" done on their own initiative. **Sanford Booker**, GHS '11, was the first President of the Boys' Glee Club (1910-11). From 1914 to 1920, the orchestra and glee clubs made much progress, and they played and sang at most of the school functions, including the annual Junior-Senior Reception (which later became the Prom). Miss Roberts left after the 1918 school year and was replaced by one-year leader **Bernice Crimm** (1918-19). The music department was run ineffectively by **Bertha Kelz** (1920-22).

EVELYN ROBERTS
Music

Boys' Glee Club.



Girls' Glee Club.

After 1920 the glee clubs disappeared, until they were revived by **Professor N.D. Messinger** in 1922. He also started the 15-member high school Band in 1922. In 1925 Mr. Messinger combined the girls and boys glee clubs to form the "Dramatic Music Club". They gave a Spanish opera, *The Toreadors*, during Commencement week, 1925, before Mr. Messinger departed. **Floyd Thomas** directed all the music department from 1925 to 1928. He was replaced by **Iliah Clark** (vocal) and **Dwight Brown** (instrumental) in 1927-28 years. **Clara Cook** was one-year vocal music leader during 1929-30.

The vocal music department was in need of stability, after the glee clubs had started and stopped several times. In the fall of 1930, **Miss Elizabeth Hill** (1905-1999, died at 93 years) was hired to rebuild the vocal music program. She revived the glee clubs in 1932. She was from Seven Mile in Butler County and was born in 1905. She attended Miami University, only twelve miles away from her home, and graduated about 1926 with a B.S. in music. Later she received a Master of Education in music from Miami.

She renewed much interest in the music program at G.H.S., and her longevity allowed the program to continue and build on its own success. The instrumental and vocal music programs had found their much-needed long-time leaders in **Dwight Brown** (GHS from 1927-64) and **Elizabeth Hill** (GHS from 1930-68), providing this much-needed stability.

Miss Hill reorganized the Girls' Glee Club first (1931-32) and directed student plays through the 1930s along with Dwight Brown. On Dec. 7, 1934, their grand production of "The Golden Trail" featured freshman **Martha Brown**, GHS '37. In 1935 the Music Club was organized to bring together and to promote the interest of all students interested in music. At every meeting, some members would put on a program, made up of songs, duets, solos, and talks on directing, etc. In 1936, the vocal music department presented the operetta H.M.S. Pinafore. In 1937, Martha Brown became the first music student to "ride in the moon" over the Memorial Hall audience. This moon was used periodically through the years, with **Gail Wade**, GHS 1962, having the honor of riding in 1962. 1938 brought the "Pony Chorus" and the "Can Can Chorus—a la 1895". In 1939 the Girls' Chorus was first

First Year Teaching-1930

ELIZABETH HILL
Vocal Music

pictured in the Chief, with productions of "Swinging It", "Minnie the Moocher", and "Barbershop Harmony". Through the 1930s, Miss Hill developed the girls' chorus and boys' chorus into larger established music singing groups.

The A Cappella Choir was started by Elizabeth Hill in 1939-40 with 26 girls and 19 boys, blending together the best singers of the girls and boys choruses. The goal of near equal numbers of soprano, alto, tenor and bass performers would eventually be fulfilled for this select group. In 1943 the Chief stated, "Music to some is a vacation, to others just a pleasure, but in all it stands out above everything else...this shows that a person is really striving to obtain some culture. Our purpose is to "sing" and "love" it. This era was the beginning of the Girls' Chorus members wearing their lovely evening dresses (formals) for their concerts. In 1944 and through the 1940s, sponsor Miss Hill led the three choral organizations in participating in school concerts, chapels, "follies", community functions, and civic clubs performances. In 1945, 25 girls and 20 boys made up the A Cappella (or Mixed) Choir, with students being chosen who were adept in note reading. The larger girls and boys choruses would break into smaller groups for some school and community functions. "Four-part music is used exclusively. An attempt is made to select music of various types to familiarize the students with all kinds of music." In 1946, it is first mentioned that service to school and civic enterprises are considered before membership into the A Cappella Choir. It is noted that the two formal vocal music programs at this time were before Christmas and Palm Sunday. At this time, the Girls' Chorus met twice a week, and became the largest organization in the school with over 200 members. This is a tribute to Miss Hill's success. In 1947, the A Cappella Choir practiced five days a week and consisted of members of the sophomore, junior and senior classes who had exceptional music talent and interest. The 1948 musical production was "People of Note", and the tradition of the final Choir performance of the year being at Baccalaureate was begun. At this time, Miss Hill brought the new members into the Choir to replace the graduating seniors. "Bend an Ear" was the 1949 musical production.

Under the direction of Elizabeth Hill and Dwight Brown, the Spring Musical is produced to highlight the year's activities in the music department (1950 Chief). The select choir, known as the A Cappella Choir, is composed of 50 to 60 students. In 1951, the Girls' Chorus had 200 members, Boys' Chorus 114, and A Cappella Choir had 54 members. The Girls' and Boys' Choruses made only one public appearance during the school year and it was the Annual Winter Musical. **Mrs. Keesecker** was the accompanist. In 1952 the choir and band presented a concert in the spring. "The vocal training (the Boys' Chorus) receives is almost considered invaluable in later life even if they do not enter the field of music as a career." The 1953 musical was "Fun With Music", which was composed of two acts. The first was made up of skits and songs by high school students, and the second act was a combination of the choir and the high school orchestra. Additional performances for the Choir included the homecoming football game and a Good Friday service at the Presbyterian Church. The Winter Musical had two halves: the first half being the Girls' and Boys' Choruses, and the second half the Orchestra and the Concert Band. Nearly 400 members made up the three vocal music groups in 1954, and the Spring Musical was "Music in the Air". The 1955 music groups expanded to 80 voices (A Cappella), 280 (Girls'), and 200 (Boys'), which was most of the students at G.H.S. at that time!



In 1956, Miss Hill taught nine classes of general music, which were an elective for the students. The honorary group of selected voices, the A Cappella Choir, had 69 members. She also was the supervisor of all elementary music in the Greenville Public Schools. The Choir also sang as part of the Christmas assembly presented by the speech classes under the direction of **Miss Otilia McGreevey**. The choir made a first-ever television appearance on WLW-D (WDTN Dayton Channel 2 now) on the "Valley High Presents" show. It was the choir's assembly the day of Homecoming (1955) that the Queen's Court was first presented. The "make believe queen" for this Homecoming assembly was played by **Arthur Downey**, GHS '57, and the play was written by **Bill McGreevey**, GHS '56. The 1956 choruses consisted of 253 girls, 118 boys and 66 in the choir. The Spring Musical was "Young and Foolish". The accompanist in 1956-58 was **Mike McFarland**, and the Spring Musical (1958) was "Thru the Keyhole". The 1958-59 piano accompanist was **Sharon Mohler**, GHS 1959, and the Spring Musical was "One for the Money". The 1959-60 Choir had 73 members, and the accompanist was **Susan Jones**, GHS 1960, for all three choruses.

The A Cappella Choir of the 1960-61 school year participated in the Winter Musical, Homecoming Assembly, Christmas Assembly, Spring Musical, the Community Good Friday Service, and the Easter Assembly. The year's highlight was the Spring Musical, which had the first act, "Straws in the Wind," which was made up of individual acts, and a second act consisting of the A Cappella Choir and the Orchestra. The 1960 to 1963 accompanist was **Sue Steck**, GHS 1963, and the Girls' Chorus reached the largest ever participation of 250 members. The Choir sang for the Rotary and Kiwanis Clubs, "Talk of the Town" was the Spring Musical theme (1962). The Winter Musical (1962-63) Girls' Chorus featured a trumpet duet by **Ken McCoy** GHS 1964, and **Joe Bowman**, GHS 1964. In addition to their regular performances, the Choir sang for the Dedication of the new high school building, Nov. 4, 1962. The 1963-65 years' piano accompanist was **Elaine McClurg**, GHS 1965. "The girls' (chorus), arrayed in colorful dresses, sang as well as they looked." The spring musical "The Passing Show" was the highlight of the year.



Elizabeth J. Hill - 1960

Miss Hill split the A Cappella Choir into a Senior Choir and a Junior Choir during the 1964-65 year. Fifty seniors made up the Senior Choir, which did all the functions of the A Cappella Choirs of previous years. The Junior Choir consisted of 58 members, sang at the Winter Musical and Baccalaureate, and are the juniors who hope to be in the Senior A Cappella Choir next year. Also, two piano accompanists served the vocal music classes, 1965-66, **Debbie Huffman**, GHS 1967, and **Terry Cassel**, GHS 1967. The Spring Musical was "A Musical Revue in Two Acts," The Senior A Cappella Choir performed their usual duties, plus adding the Farmers' and Business Men's Banquet (later Rural Farmers' Banquet), Masonic Lodge Dinner, the Open House, and the Palm Sunday Service. The Junior Choir of 1966-67 also added singing at the Christmas assembly and the P.T.A. district meeting. The Spring Musical, March 10-11, 1967, included the Senior Choir singing a variety of songs in short skits. As a folk group the senior choir sang "Cherish", "Georgy Girl", and "Today." The finale included the popular songs "Sunrise, Sunset", "Born Free", "The Impossible Dream", and "I'll See You in My Dreams." **Terry Cassel** and **Susan Cole**, GHS 1969, accompanied the choruses, 1966-67, with Susan in 1967-68. The Junior and Senior choirs sang together at the Winter Musical. The final Senior A Cappella Choir (1968) had 44 members and once again had the Spring Musical theme of "A Musical Revue in Two Acts."

The year 1968 was the retirement year for Miss **Elizabeth Hill**, who was most responsible for the vocal music success built at GHS over her 38 years and the approximately 60 years since vocal music was introduced to GHS. She built a program which didn't even exist in some of the years in the 1920s into a program which, at one time in the 1950s, included three-fourths of the student body at GHS. This ended the A Cappella Choir, with Mr. **Edward Reck**, the youthful successor, making changes in the program and starting Choir-O-Rama the next year. (*End of Part 1*).

Vocal Music Department leaders for the first 60 years:

1909-1918 **Evelyn Roberts**

1918-1919 **Bernice Crimm**

1919-1922 **Bertha Kelz** (*no glee clubs from 1920-22*)

1922-1925 **Professor N.D. Messinger** (*Vocal and Band*)

1925-1928 **Floyd Thomas** (*Vocal and Band*)

1928-1929 **Iliah Clark**

1929-1930 **Clara Cook**

1930-1968 **Elizabeth Hill**



Final Year Teaching

1968

Elizabeth J. Hill

B.S.

M. Ed. In Music

Miami University

Vocal Music

Pride in Calling Greenville Home

By Rachel Bernhard Seis, GHS 2003



Rachel Bernhard Seis, '03

Pulling onto Route 127 after six hours on the road, the feeling hits. A sense of warmth washes over me as our car careens north, passing through miles and miles of field, flora and farmland. It's been a while since I've driven on country roads, but I know these ones by heart and fondly remember every wind and curve that takes me back to the place where I grew up.

It's been six years since I moved to Milwaukee, where I was married last year, where I bought my home and where I plan to live for many years to come. But 29 years ago, my roots were planted deep in Darke County, and every time I make the drive back, with every mile closer I reach, that same warm feeling swells. No matter how long I've been gone, I always refer to Greenville as "home."

Whenever people ask about my hometown, I'm usually met with a quizzical look, to which I respond with the usual quip. "The birthplace of Annie Oakley! The only place where KitchenAid stand mixers are made! Have you ever heard of the Treaty of Greenville?" I could go on, and given the chance, I will. Given the chance, I'd describe the subtle spice of the sandwiches at the Maid-Rite, impossible to duplicate; of the restaurant's brick walls covered in gum and about the afternoons we'd walk there after school in junior high. I'd tell them how the official start of the summer directly coincides with the opening day at Jim's Drive-In. I'd talk up the Great Darke County Fair, and how exciting it would be to stroll down the midway, aglow in flashing lights. I'd tell them about how the long line for Farmer Brown sandwiches was well worth the wait; how you'll never feel more refreshed than after slurping down a Rotary Lemonade Shake-Up; how a colorful wooden cane is the greatest prize you could ever hope to win; how I can still hear the warm voice ringing throughout the grounds, calling me to meet my friends at the Mike Tent.

If prodded to continue, I'd speak with pride about the ability to pinpoint the smell of a hog farm, and how the best pork chop you'll ever eat will come from Winner's. I'd reminisce about piling up blankets along State Route 121 to watch the Fourth of July fireworks, squealing with glee as the sky lit up, the crackles and booms echoing across the country landscape. I'd mention a summer Saturday just isn't complete until you've made a stop at the Dairy Barn (their Strawberry Sundae can't be beat).

If, by this time, the person is still interested in learning more about the place where I grew up, I'd smile and describe with detail the thrill of playing Capture the Flag in the Greenville City Park, of sledding down Memorial Hill and hoping that, this time, you might have built up enough momentum to make it all the way to the ice-covered lagoon. I'd lean in and whisper about the time I "borrowed" a baby duckling from the park lagoon when I was five years old, about how I brought it home, named it Puddles and called it my new pet...all before my parents had discovered what I'd done and made me take him back. I'd explain how it was simple for me to go so, as my hometown was quaint and safe enough for someone so young, to walk a couple blocks down to the park to play.

But more than anything, if given the chance to summarize my experience growing up in Greenville, I'd describe the feeling of pride I have to count this place as home. It's slow-moving and simple, laid-back and friendly. It may not come with the thrill of living in the heart of a bustling city, but when you look up at night and see the sea of stars twinkling over the gentle plains of farmland, you feel a sense of contentment that can't be reproduced. It's the place I'll always refer to as "home", no matter where I travel, no matter how many years I've been away from this humble stretch of rural land with roads that wind their way to homes filled with the same warm memories as my own.

Editor's note: Rachel wrote this article earlier this year, showing her pride in her hometown. Her parents Howard Bernhard (Gettysburg 1969) and Patty Harter

Bernhard (GHS 1973) were long-time teachers in the Greenville City Schools. Rachel currently resides in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, with her husband Eric. She was the Editor of the 2003 GHS Chief yearbook, and later a Journalism graduate of Ohio University.

Rachel is an Assistant Editor at *Taste of Home* magazine, contributor to the *Milwaukee Record* and a blogger for the *Milwaukee Journal-Sentinel*.

Can you name this family who had 10 siblings graduate from Greenville High School between 1966 and 1983? (Answer is later in this newsletter.)



The Wogaman Art Legacy

As a follow-up to the **Martin Wogaman** (GHS 1923) story (*GHS AlumNews*, Fall, 2013), Martin's granddaughter **Susan Stover**, GHS 1980, is continuing the family's legacy of art. Susan began as a painter, then went to textiles, and now is doing encaustic painting. She has her own studio in Graton, California, and is showing regularly. She was one of the featured artists in a book for artists on techniques in encaustics. Encaustics art is also known as hot wax painting (such as heated beeswax plus colored pigment applied to wood or canvas, etc.). Susan is the daughter of **Roberta Wogaman Stover**, GHS 1947.

At this point, Susan's daughter has no artistic interest, so maybe the gene will appear in the next generation.

Jason Barker - GHS Class of 1995 - 3/8/1977 - 8/31/1992

By Jeff Barker, GHS 1989

Jason Barker was the son of **Gary and Christine Barker** and the brother of **Jeff Barker**.

Jason received his education from Greenville City Schools, attending kindergarten through 5th grade at Woodland Heights Elementary, 6th grade at the old North School building, and 7th and 8th grade at the Junior High School. Jason went on to enjoy his freshman year at GHS where he played drums in the Marching Band, and was a member of the cross-country and tennis teams. He was also a member of the First United Presbyterian Church, Fellowship of Christian athletes, and Youth for Christ.



Jason Barker, '95

Jason was not the biggest, strongest, fastest, or best athlete, and he was not a straight-A student. He was an average, polite, happy, good-natured, kid who was well-liked among his peers, teachers, friends and family. Jason was able to relate to people of all ages. He knew no strangers, and many Greenville citizens called him Friend.

Jason spent the summer of 1992 like many of his fellow classmates; training for the upcoming cross-country season, attending summer gym class, riding his bicycle around town, sticking gum on the wall at the Maid-Rite, helping out at his dad's used car business, and attending the Great Darke County Fair.

On Sunday, August 30, 1992, just one day before his sophomore year was to begin, Jason was tragically killed when he was struck by a car while riding his bicycle.

A small group of GHS faculty, alumni, and other supporters, decided to create the annual **Jason Barker Spirit Award** in Jason's memory. Yearly recipients of the award would possess many of the same fine qualities that were observed in Jason (kind, friendly, enthusiastic, encouraging, dependable, reverent, winsome and fun-loving). A plaque bearing Jason's freshman photo and the names of each recipient, hangs in the hallway near the GHS cafeteria, where Jason would often seek out students eating lunch alone, and sit down with them for a chat.

Jason Barker lived a big life in a small town. He had a fantastic attitude and treated others with respect and consideration. Jason is fondly remembered as a decent, respectable all-American boy who loved his family and friends, lived his faith, and enjoyed his life growing up in Greenville.

Twenty years after the first Jason Barker Spirit Award was presented, this year's winner is senior Prom Queen **Sophia Navas-Davis**, who has been a stand-out tennis player for the Green Wave and an excellent student. She is going to Otterbein University and will play tennis for the Cardinals. She is very deserving of this spirit award and possesses all the qualities exhibited in Jason's character. Her ambition is to become a teacher.



Sophia Navas-Davis, '14

Tim Bowers, USMA '13



Tim Bowers U.S.M.A.
2009-2013

Timothy Bowers, GHS 2009, graduated from the United States Military Academy, at West Point, N.Y., last year with a B.S. degree in Mechanical Engineering. Tim was one of approximately 1,000 Cadets who graduated in May, 2013, during the traditional Army commencement exercise which always ends with the "class dismissed" command. This was the 212th year of West Point graduations, with the first being in 1802. Second Lieutenant Bowers is stationed at Fort Campbell, Ky., and is preparing for deployment to Afghanistan this fall. Tim was Salutatorian for the G.H.S. Class of 2009, and his father Mr. Carlton Bowers is presently a teacher at G.H.S. His mother Robyn Bowers is a teacher at Woodland Heights Primary School. Tim is the twenty-fourth G.H.S. graduate to attend and graduate from one of the U.S. Federal Service Academies (Army, Navy, Air Force).

Editor's note: Tim was earlier featured in the Spring, 2009, AlumNews (p.5). Tim is the 24th G.H.S. graduate to attend and graduate from one of the U.S. Federal Service Academies (13 Navy, 8 Army, and 3 Air Force).

Courage For Corynna Brings the Greenville Community Together

Corynna R. Strawser, GHS Class of 2015, passed away December 11, 2013, after a very valiant and public battle with Mitochondrial Disease. The community of Greenville showed dedicated support of the Strawser family to a degree not seen before in our memory. Although many children are born with special needs, no local caring effort has ever been accomplished on such a large scale.

After disclosure of her sickness, Corynna used the rest of her life to bring awareness of the rare, incurable, genetic Mitochondrial Disease. At GHS, she talked about the formation of an "Acts of Kindness" (AOK) Club, which became a reality in 2013 when some

students and parents honored her with the establishment of this new club of 23 members. Along with other activities, the AOK helped pack sack lunches for elementary Greenville students. It is a continuing part of the Parent Teacher Student Association (PTSA), according to GHS Principal **Ken Neff**, who remembered the keen interest the students had about the developing situation. During Homecoming Week, 2012, the sophomore class officers (her class of 2015) had a fundraiser called, "Candy For Corynna". Students would make paper-made candies, and would sell them at GHS for a dollar with all proceeds going to help Corynna.

Early April, 2013, members of the community recognized the necessity of having a first floor bedroom and bath for Corynna since the family's older two-story house became unmanageable with her small second story living quarters. The support group for the Strawasers, called Courage For Corynna, suggested building this room addition to the rear of their Sweitzer Street home. This construction project was led by **Mark Wolf**, Greenville's Fire Chief, with donated time, materials, expertise, and financial contributions coming from our community members. **Jason Stebbins**, GHS 2000, a general contractor designed the layout for what became "Corynna's Room." In May, the GHS students held a benefit called "Light Up the Night" in the Greenville City Park, with 400 paper lotus flowers being sold for \$3.00 each. Student Services coordinator **Mark Koontz**, GHS 2001, said that over \$1,000 was raised for the room addition and stated, "It says a lot about our community and our school." After a rain delay and chilly weather, the 400 lanterns were lit and set afloat on the City Park's ponds one evening.

By mid-May, the "Building Corynna's Room Committee" began construction, after convincing her parents, **Sean Strawser**, GHS 1992, and **Kristi Cook Strawser**, GHS 1995 and an R.N., that the volunteers could get the job done. Grandparents with a GHS connection are **Phil Cook**, GHS 1976, and **Teresa Cook Stetler-Clear**, GHS 1977. Corynna's parents were reluctant at first, but the ending result was a great improvement in navigation and spending time with family and friends. Before the addition, Kristi and Sean had to carry Corynna on her back up and down the stairway. The room cost approximately \$25,000 and features handicap-accessible items and bath, and space for medical equipment. The Strawser family was very active, working with the 70 volunteers, in completing the project. On June 22, 2013, the addition was completed, and an open house celebration allowed many of the community visitors to see Corynna in her new room. The monetary donations and supplies for the room addition exceeded costs for the project, with the extra going to medical expenses. She even received donations from the community to help decorate the new room. Kristi stated, "Just going out without having to carry her was much more enjoyable for both of us. She didn't have to have her clothes all messed up, and didn't have to be uncomfortable with being carried. She just got in her wheelchair, wheeled down the ramp, and transferred herself into the van."

Near the end of the school year, the fifth and sixth grade students at South School turned in over \$600 worth of pennies and their other loose change during the "penny war". The math classes at South School counted the



L to R: Sean Strawser, GHS, 1992, Corynna R. Strawser, Class of 2015, Kristi Cook Strawser, GHS, 1995

money, and the class bringing in the most money was allowed to leave early on the last day of school. At the end of May, the Triumphant Christian Center of Greenville held a “quarter auction” to benefit the room building. This included a silent auction, bidding, raffle drawings, and food to be bid on with donors’ quarters. Other fundraisers were held by the Oakland Church of the Brethren’s youth group and the Greenville City Firemen, along with funds from many larger corporate/business donors. **Luke Capasso**, GHS 1999, returned home for the Fair in August and headlined a comedy show of several acts for the benefit of Corynna.

In August Corynna’s condition had declined to a condition that Darke County’s State of the Heart Hospice was called. Kristi had been a former nurse with this organization. Corynna was determined to complete a life review video with Hospice, making a video for her parents and friends to go back and remember her. Hospice’s social worker **Pam Pohlman** and videographer **Mindy Huffman Stebbins**, GHS 2000, made the one-hour video. In November she filmed an educational PBS special to help those in the medical field and to raise public awareness through her story.

For those who do not know much about Mitochondrial Disease, Kristi, Sean, and Corynna spent much of the last part of 2013 detailing the facts about the disease. Several in-depth articles were written in the Greenville papers, with more information available at info@umdf.org. Corynna said, “It kills nearly as many as childhood cancer, but no one knows about it.” Over 900 “Courage For Corynna” T-shirts and hooded sweat shirts were sold locally through Cavalier Sports, with a portion of the proceeds going to the Corynna’s UMDf research fund. The Research Fund has reached over \$24,000, and is being used for research diagnostics and research treatments. The State of the Heart Hospice has started a “Corynna’s Wish” for local Hospice patients to have wishes granted on a local basis. The Darke County Commissioners, **Mike Stegall**, GHS 1972, **Mike Rhoades**, and **Diane Delaplane**, declared Mitochondrial Disease Awareness Day to be November 25, 2013. Thousands outside Darke County have been made aware by many different means of media exposure. Square Donuts in Richmond donated \$2 per dozen donuts sold during another fundraiser.

In November, Greenville’s 10th annual Hometown Holiday Horse Parade was held down Broadway kicking off the Christmas season. For the first time, a second, smaller horse parade of 30+ units was assembled about a week later to honor Corynna, with promotion by Greenville Mayor **Mike Bowers**, GHS 1979. The route down Sweitzer Street turned into the alley next to Strawser’s house to the rear alley. These equestrian units take much effort to prepare, and enough interest was generated to make this happen. Corynna was able to see the horse parade from her bedroom window.

Mayor Bowers says, “As tragic as the situation was for Corynna and her family, it was amazing to watch a community pull together and support this family. From the various fundraisers to the love and support given, this community showed why Greenville is such a great place to live and raise a family. I was contacted on the Monday before Thanksgiving of 2013 by a lady who asked if the City would support a smaller version of the Holiday Horse Parade for Corynna. Her condition had worsened and she was unable to attend that year’s parade. I sat down with the lady that Monday afternoon and we put together a basic framework for a parade. The Darke County Agricultural Society allowed us to stage everything on the fairgrounds. The “equine community” had numerous riders and hitches, and even with the Thanksgiving holiday in the middle of the planning, we were able to present an event to a very deserving young lady. Corynna and her family showed great strength and resilience through her battle with mitochondrial disease. I am very proud of the way this community came along side and helped to support them.”

The “Courage For Corynna” Facebook page has more than 7,500 likes, and is now called “Courage From Corynna”. The family’s Christmas was moved up to a couple days after Thanksgiving and was celebrated with hundreds of well-wishers. Santa Claus visited the house. Family friend, youth pastor, **Nick Good**, GHS 1998, organized a caroling event at the house with over 250 carolers holding candles and singing Christmas favorites to the family. Professional photographers **John Baker** and **Amber Clark Garrett**, GHS 2000, added their talents to help preserve these memories.

At the December 16 Celebration of Life, GHS Junior **Alison Helfrich**, ’16, performed a song she had written for Corynna, “Ten Thousand Ways to Live”, with music by her father **Joseph Helfrich**. Later recordings have been made.

Her family and friends gathered at Abbottsville Cemetery April 27, 2014, to launch lavender balloons in memory of Corynna, who would have been 17 years old. In June, 2014, the **Corynna Strawser Act**, or Ohio Senate Bill 300, passed the Ohio Senate and Ohio House of Representatives, to make September officially Mitochondrial Disease Awareness Month in Ohio. Sponsors of this bill were State Representative **Jim Buchy**, GHS 1958, State Senator **Bill Beagle**, and State Senate President **Keith Faber**. Ohio Governor **John Kasich** signed the bill into law June 17, 2014. **Chad Garrett**, GHS 1996, and **Phillip Pierri**, GHS 1998, raised approximately \$6,000 for Mitochondrial research in an Ironman Competition in Muncie in July.

Corynna was a make-up artist, a fashion buff, a GHS student, and a dancer on the competitive level. The Special Wish Foundation provided for her a trip to New York City, where she had once hoped to live. Not able to dance any more, she turned to make-up artistry, and was taken backstage of the Broadway Musical "Wicked" to see the special effects and make-up that was done for a production. Her faith was a major part of her acceptance of what was happening. "God has had this plan for me all along. This is the life I was meant to live," said Corynna. This public exposure took a lot of fight and courage and has touched thousands of lives, including the entire GHS student body. Principal Ken Neff said, "She's certainly been a big part of the spirit of Greenville High School."

The Strawser family remained so public about the family's very personal journey to continue raising awareness of this life-limiting disease. "Shine On Corynna" is an event planned Sunday, October 5, 2014, at 4:00 PM, at the Darke County Fairgrounds, and will be a family event with food, games, music, and a 5-K "Glow in the Dark" run. A "Shine On Corynna Glow Ball (golf) Tournament" is scheduled for October 4 at Stillwater Golf Course. Proceeds from these events will benefit the Research Fund, the Scholarship Fund, and Corynna's Wish. Kristi's goal is to see and to know that even when Corynna's gone, "we'll never let the world forget her." I think the Greenville community's love for Corynna will help Kristi and Sean realize this goal.



2014 Reunion – Class of 1948

Front Row Seated: John Brumbaugh, Jo Ann Sharp Thompson, Doris Rhoades Mikesell, Richard Robbins, Mary Tester, and Betty Oberer Best.

Row 2: Marline Spille Kelley, Joan Baker Lease, Jack Brandt, Dick Faulkner, Norma Swank Unland, Vanis Lephart Brumbaugh, Phyllis Beisner Hathaway, Arlene Fourman Hicks, and Phyllis Shook Townsend.

Back Row 3: Harvey Pierce, Robert Gunckle, Don Lease, Nancy Nealeigh Wenger, Bob Hathaway, E.J. Byrum, and Shirley Stebbins DiRocco.

22 members of the G.H.S. Class of 1948 attended their 66th Year Reunion, May 3, 2014, at the BRC (Brethren Home) Brick Room.

G.H.S. Valedictorian and Salutatorian for 2014

The 2014 G.H.S. Valedictorian is **Sarah Herzog**, who had a 5.1 weighted G.P.A. She is the daughter of **Steven** and **Kathy Herzog** and plans on attending the University of Notre Dame and majoring in Chemical Engineering. She has always attended Greenville schools and has a brother, G.H.S. graduate, **Vince Herzog**, '04.

Her high school honors include National Honor Society (2 years), Spanish II, III, and IV student of the year, first place in the Chemistry Olympiad Patterson Test for the Dayton area (Chem. I category), 2nd team GWOC Academic team (2 years) and GHS JV and Varsity Captains, Honda-OSU Math Medal Recipient, first place at GHS in the science fair and excellent rating at districts, Highest Honors (4 years), Academician (3 years), concertmaster of the GHS Orchestra, Orchestra member (7 years), and Key Club (4 years and president). In Key Club freshman year, she joined another student in initiating the Box City Homeless Awareness Event, now held each year in the spring. During this event, students sleep outdoors in box shelters to experience being "homeless for a night." In exchange for building materials, the students donate canned goods and gently used clothing to donate to local shelters. In 2013 alone, Key Club collected 384 pounds of food and several boxes of clothing for the Grace Resurrection Community Center (formerly the Grace Lutheran Church on E. Water Street) through the Box City event.



Cole Ward

Sarah Herzog

Extracurricular activities include Dayton Philharmonic Youth Orchestra (3 years) after two years of the Dayton Philharmonic Youth Strings, her church K. of C. Youth of the Year, Youth Ministry Award, and V.B.S. teacher. She sings and plays violin at her church weekly, and is an accomplished musician good enough to be one of the best performers at the "Greenville's Got Talent" contest (sponsored by the Greenville Schools Foundation) last fall.

When asked why she chose Notre Dame to further her education, she said when visiting the campus, she fell in love with the school. Sarah has enjoyed every opportunity during her four years at G.H.S.

Cole Ward is this year's Salutatorian, with a weighted G.P.A. of 4.8. His parents are **Christopher Ward** and **Stacie Blosser Ward**, GHS 1989, and will attend Indiana Wesleyan University in Marion, Indiana. He plans to major in Interdisciplinary Mathematics with a major in Actuarial Science.

Cole's high school activities include being Class President for all four years, Student Council (4 years and president), National Honor Society (2 years), SADD Club, Key Club, Acts of Kindness Club (AOK) Club, Varsity Calculus, and Homecoming Court. He was Kiwanis Senior of the Month, Anthony Munoz Foundation Leadership Seminar attendee (2 years), attendee to the OHSAA Foundation Leadership Conference and the GWOC Athletics Leadership Conference, GWOC Academic Team, GHS Pride Award winner, and Varsity Baseball (4 years and first team GWOC North 2014).

Cole's extracurricular activities include serving at Special Olympics, G.H.S. Senior Citizens Day, East School Field Day, and Make-a-Wish week. He participated and organized numerous canned food drives, a school district-wide recycling project, the local "Rake 'N Run", and the new Healthy Kids Running Series in Greenville. He played an integral part in organizing and gathering community support for the Fall, 2012 "Goodwill Drive to Victory", a contest sponsored by WDTN-TV to accumulate the highest weighted items for Goodwill which G.H.S. won against all the other football schools in the Dayton area. (G.H.S. finished second in the Miami Valley in the Fall, 2013 drive.) Additionally he has volunteered for Bell Ringing for Community Unity and the Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child done through the Oakland Church of the Brethren Youth Group.

Both Sarah and Cole have enjoyed working with the community throughout their academic careers in Greenville, and will have successful careers after college.

This Year's Raudabaugh Winners

The annual **Jack Raudabaugh Awards** are given to a senior boy and to a senior girl who is in the top third of the class, must have lettered in two sports, have high leadership qualities, and have good moral character. Coach Raudabaugh was also a teacher and principal at GHS from 1937 to 1973. The first boys award to **Bob "Butch" Brown** was in 1942, and the first girls award was in 1975 to **Melanie Brand**. The awards are amongst the most prestigious ones given annually at GHS. This year's winners are:

Paige Keller is this year's winner and the 42nd girl to receive the award. She was the State Champion in the Vault at the State H.S. Gymnastics meet this year, 2 year gymnastics letter winner, state qualifier in Uneven Parallel Bars (gymnastics); 4 year track letter winner; 3 year Greenie mascot; GWOC Scholar Athlete; National Honor Society; SADD Club; Student Council; Maid-Rite Sportsmanship; Daily Advocate Athlete of the Week; GWOC 1st team pole vault and tied school record in pole vault; and class GPA over 4.00.

Paige is the daughter of **Jon Keller**, GHS 1982, and GHS Spanish teacher **Lori Rehmert Keller**, GHS 1985, and grand daughter of former Greenville Mayor **Richard Rehmert**, GHS 1958, with siblings **Kirstin Keller**, GHS 2009, **Andrea Keller**, GHS 2010, and **Lucas Keller**, GHS 2013. Paige is attending Manchester University in Indiana, and plans on majoring in Athletic Training.

The 62nd boy to receive the Raudabaugh Award is **Calen Bruner**, who participated in track 4 years, cross country 4 years, swimming 3 years, Scholar Athlete, GWOC Scholar Athlete, GWOC 2nd team cross country, GWOC swim Special Mention, swim District and Regional Qualifier, school record (400 yd. Medley Relay swim team), Maid-Rite Sportsmanship, and also class GPA over 4.00.

Calen is the son of **Todd** and **Jillyn Bruner**, with GHS siblings, **Devan Bruner**, GHS 2010, and **Landon Bruner**, GHS 2011, and younger siblings in the Greenville school system. Calen is enrolled at Anderson University, also in Indiana, with intentions of running track and cross country, and eventually majoring in Exercise Science.

Congratulations to Paige and Calen, and best of luck in your futures.



Paige Keller Calen Bruner

Greenville High School Alumni Association

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GHS Prom "Hollywood"

Proms have been mentioned in the Chiefs periodically since 1927. Before 1939 it was known as the Junior-Senior Reception. Most were held in the High School gymnasium from 1932 to 1962. After moving to the new High School building in 1962, Proms continued at the High School from 1963 to 2006. Proms since 2007 have been held at Romer's Catering facility in downtown Greenville. Prom Courts were not recognized until 2003, and have continued to present. Between 6 and 8 boys and 6 to 8 girls were selected by the Seniors to be on the court, then voted on by the Seniors to determine a King and a Queen. None of the candidates chosen for the Homecoming Courts at the beginning of the school years was allowed to be elected to the Prom Courts.

This year's Prom was held May 3 at Romer's with 327 attendees, and had tasteful decorations of the "Hollywood" theme. A dinner was followed by dancing, many pictures, the announcement of the Prom Court, and then the King and Queen of the Prom. The Junior Class put much effort into creating an atmosphere of Hollywood. **Erika Jeffers**, President of the Junior Class, led the workers, under direction of **Ms. Mollie Willman Mendoza**, GHS 1989, Junior Class sponsor. The Prom lasted from 6:00 to 11:00, followed by an After Prom party which was held at the High School gym from 11:00 to 2:00 AM.



The Prom Court Queen candidates (along with parents GHS connections), and pictured from left to right: **Kristen Karns**, **Brionna Greer** (father **Chris Greer**, GHS '87, mother **Joy Slade Greer**, GHS '89), **Elizabeth Reed** (mother **Morrisa Melling Reed**, GHS '87), **Karlee Lennen** (father **Kevin Lennen**, GHS '79, mother **Kelly Ade Lennen**, GHS '80), **Rachel Foreman** (father **Dean Foreman**, GHS '81, mother **Chris James**, GHS '83), **Sophia Navas-Davis** (mother GHS teacher **Jill Davis**, GHS '84), and **Samantha Jay** (father **William Jay, Jr.**, GHS '78, mother **Tina Peak**).

Prom King candidates pictured at the fountain, front: **Viren Patel**. Back row: **Javier Francisco Bixler**, **Desmond Jackson**, **Seth Bryson** (father **Neil Bryson**, GHS '75, mother **Dian Wellman Bryson**, GHS '79), **Ryan Simons** (father **John Simons**, GHS '80, mother **Carrie Marker Simons**, GHS '85), **Jason Maitlen** (father **Mark Maitlen**, GHS '74, mother **Susie Brock Maitlen**, GHS '75), and **Ian Warner** (father **John Warner**, GHS '78, mother **Ginger Howard Warner**, GHS '76).

The winners, as voted by their senior classmates, were **Queen Sophia Navas-Davis**, is now attending Otterbein University, and is a daughter of GHS Spanish teacher, **Jill Davis**, GHS 1984. **King Viren Patel** was born in Greenville, and is attending Sinclair College in Dayton to study business. Pictured with the King and Queen are **Homecoming Queen Paige Keller** and **Chief Green Wave Heath Marker**.



Above picture from Top, L to R:
Heath Marker
Sophia Navas-Davis
Viren Patel
Paige Keller

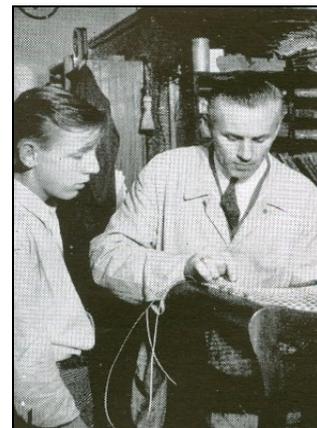
Picture at left:
2014 GHS Prom Court

Wood Working 101

by Buzz Blanchard, GHS '52

Even as a young child I always wanted to be able to design and build things using the skills of wood working.

The start of this journey goes back to when I was in grade school. Actually it was one year during the Halloween costume parade. When you enter the parade in costume it is best that you have a mask that hides your identity. That way if you see someone you know you can bug them without their knowing who you are. When you arrive at the parade, volunteers will place you in the costume category and section in which you belong. The parade travels down Broadway and then doubles back and snakes through the Court House to the room where they judge the costumes and select winners in each category. The year in question I was given a first place prize. You were then led out to the master of ceremony who introduced you and announced what your prize was. When it came my turn, I gave my name as garbled as I could make it. Of course the master of ceremony clearly spoke my name and said that my prize was a toilet seat and lid from Sellman's Hardware Store. Boy was I ever embarrassed. I slunk home. I talked with my parents and, on the Saturday afternoon after the parade, I went to Sellman's Hardware and talked to a sales clerk and explained that I really didn't have a use for a toilet seat and lid. The clerk chuckled and said that he understood and instead I could select any merchandise I wanted up to the price of the toilet seat and lid. Looking at all the hardware and tools I was like a kid in a candy store. After a lot of looking and considering, I made my pick of tools consisting of a small iron hammer, a screwdriver, and a not-so-sharp saw. Now this was my start in woodworking.



At right: Robert Hawes
Manual Training Instr.

Once you have the tools you can begin making things. But then, there is the need to have some kind of wood. When this started, Greenville had two lumber yards in the vicinity of East School, and, if you were real polite and asked, the lumber yard would let you have some of the scraps of wood from their box of scraps near the cut-off saw. With my little red wagon, I could rescue all kinds of wood for who-knows-what project you could dream up. It is fortunate that none of these early projects has survived the years.

When I entered high school, I thought that this would be the ideal time to get formal training in the use of power equipment, so as a Freshman, I signed up for Industrial Arts. The one-period class usually started with formal instruction, then you retrieved your project materials and began working until the time which you were supposed to put everything away. For the first grading term, instructor Mr. **C.R. "Bob" Hawes** (1906-1962, GHS 1925 graduate and GHS manual arts teacher from 1944 to 1962) gave me an assignment to prepare a piece of walnut 3 inches by $\frac{3}{4}$ inch thick and 8 inches long for open grain filler, staining and numerous coats of lacquer finish. A bit tedious, but you have to start somewhere. The second grading period I selected a project to build a student desk. A piece of

Due to our ever increasing costs of printing and mailing, **our annual membership fee is now \$7.00 per year, effective January 1, 2012.**

The Lifetime membership costs have not increased.

To all our new Life Members, thanks for making your commitment to the Alumni Association! We will be mailing your copy of this edition of the AlumNews to you in a separate

mailing, which should allow you to receive it without delay.

Future newsletters will include a Membership Renewal envelope, (fall issue only), and a card for joining the Alumni Association as a Life Member.

If you need to know the current status of your Alumni Association membership, please call **Buzz Blanchard, GHS '52** at (937) 548-5136 and he will be happy to

confirm the status of your membership.

If you change your mailing address, please let us know as soon as you can. This allows us to reduce our re-mailing costs.

Remember, to receive your newsletter, you must be a current GHS Alumni Association member.

Thank you!

Circulation/Membership Committee

walnut wood was found so I could start making a leg for the desk. That's about as far as it went! About this time an amazing thing happened! A girl from the art class joined our all-boys class to work on an art project involving wood carving. This young lady was a friend of my sister **Helen Louise Blanchard Yake**, GHS 1949. **Rita Ottman Whitmore Peterson**, GHS 1949, was a Senior, and the daughter of Mr. **Othello O. Ottman** (1885-1955), Spanish teacher at GHS from 1918 to 1952. I will have to admit that I was smitten, especially since she sat at the table next to my assigned work bench. So Rita, wherever you are, I considered asking you to wait for me to get older and more mature. The projects for the rest of the year were a Santa sled with four reindeer, which required learning the use of a jigsaw, and the base for a table light, which required learning to use the lathe. This became a wedding gift for my sister **Loretta Blanchard Allen**, GHS 1943.

In my later life, I could not find wood suitable for advanced wood working in the scrap wood box at the lumber yard because, by then both lumber yards had closed, so I had to be diligent and look elsewhere. So when we moved into our new house, in the front yard we planted a nice pin oak tree from Sink's nursery. As with my usual luck, in forty years the tree died, so when the tree was cut down, I had the tree trimming company save a twelve-foot log and had it cut into lumber and stashed in the attic of our garage to season. So after five years there was instant lumber for wood working projects. I acquired some walnut for projects in a similar manor when DP&L workers were tree trimming under their power lines in the back yard, and I again had the tree trimmers save a log and had a lumber mill come in and saw the log into boards. Oh yes, the walnut tree was planted by the squirrels. You'd think they would have been more careful and not plant the tree under the power line.

The rest of my wood working is history, and I still make mostly sawdust.

*Editor's note: In addition to being a teacher at GHS, Mr. **Bob Hawes** became the Director of the Greenville Boys Club for the last 15 years of his life. He had taught at Ansonia and West Milton prior to coming to Greenville to teach Industrial Arts. He was found dead in a barn, April 9, 1962, and the coroner said death was due to strangulation.*



C. R. HAWES
1906-1962

In Memoriam

Mr. Hawes began his teaching career at G.H.S. in September of 1944. He had a constant desire to help young boys and became director of the Greenville Boys' Club in 1948. He was admired and respected by all who knew him. Mr. Hawes is greatly missed by all of us.



Above picture of Industrial Arts Class or Manual Arts where Robert Hawes instructed his class. This room is in a building presently behind the Memorial Hall. (1956 Chief)

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JOIN AS A MEMBER OF YOUR GHS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION.

Attention Parents and Families

Help us ensure that your son, daughter, or any family member receives this newsletter in a timely manner. If your GHS graduate has a new permanent address, please let us know so that we can update our records. Contact us at 100 Green Wave Way, Greenville, Ohio 45331, or via email at:

webmaster@greenvillealumni.net

Phelps and Hill Citizenship Awards

The most prestigious senior awards given annually at G.H.S. for service, character, and citizenship are the **Eugene Phelps Citizenship Award** for the outstanding senior boy, and the **Elizabeth Hill Citizenship Award** for the outstanding senior girl.

The 48th Phelps Award was awarded to **Cole Ward** this year, who was President of his class for his four years of high school and was Student Body President his senior year. His parents are **Chris** and **Stacie Blosser Ward** (Stacie, GHS 1989).

The 45th Hill Award went to **Paige Keller** this year, who was an outstanding student and athlete at GHS. She won the State Gymnastics Meet Vault and tied the pole vault school record, was first team GWOC, a Scholar Athlete, and the Homecoming Queen.



Cole Ward

Both of the recipients have won other awards mentioned in this newsletter with further attributes listed there, and are both students of which Mr. Phelps and Miss Hill would have been proud. *(pictured with both is the presenter GHS Assistant Principal Mr. David Torrence).*



Paige Keller

William A. Browne, M.D. (1935-2013)

Dr. William "Bill" Browne, GHS 1953, passed away April 13, 2013 at the age of 77, after battling recurrent cancer for 12 years. He attended and graduated from Miami University, Oxford, in 1957, before completing his medical degree at Thomas Jefferson University Medical College in Philadelphia, Pa. Following graduation, Dr. Browne returned to Greenville to practice medicine. In 1966 he was drafted into the U.S. Army as a physician and as a Captain, and served as commanding officer of the dispensary at Tooele, Utah, Army Depot. Bill and his family returned to Greenville in 1968 to continue his practice. In 1985, Bill returned to Oxford and became Medical Director of the Miami Student Health Service until his retirement. He was instrumental in the design of the new student medical facility.

Bill is survived by his wife of 57 years, **Cornelia Clark Browne**, whom he met at Miami, and three sons, **Bill Browne**, GHS 1976, **Michael Browne**, GHS 1980, and **Stewart Browne**, Class of 1983, and five grandchildren.

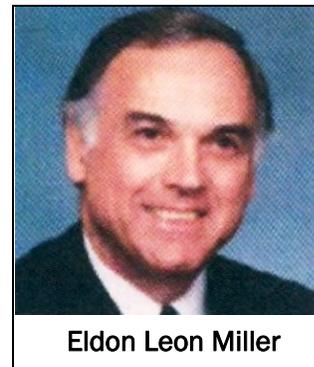
Dr. Browne was a brilliant-skilled physician and well respected in the Greenville and Oxford communities and beyond. His extraordinary knowledge, engaging personality, quick wit, and great smile will all be missed by his many longtime friends.



Coach Eldon Miller (1935-2013)

Eldon L. Miller, Ph.D., age 77, of The Villages, Florida, passed away May 31, 2013. He was born in 1935 in Gettysburg.

Coach Miller had the honor of being the first Head Boys Basketball Coach at the new GHS building in 1962. He was born in 1935 and grew up in Gettysburg. After obtaining a B.S. degree in teaching from Manchester College, he taught and coached at Westmont in Darke County before coming to Greenville for two years. At GHS he taught Health, Biology, and Economic Geography, as well as being head coach of boys varsity basketball and boys tennis. At age 28 and after a two-year varsity basketball record of 6-28, Eldon resigned in May, 1964, to take an assistantship at New Mexico State University in Las Cruces. In leaving, Eldon was quoted in the *Daily Advocate* (May 11, 1964): "There remains problems in the building of a more successful basketball program (here). We have a long way to go in developing a feeder system....You can't compete in the Miami Valley League without doing this....There are evident remains of defeatism (not enough off-season practice)".



Eldon had a very successful career after leaving Greenville. First receiving an M.A. degree from Miami University, before the eventual Ph.D. from New Mexico State. This administrative degree led to the position of Dean of Students at Mountain View College in Dallas, Texas, and later as a professor in the Ph.D. program at the University of Colorado at Boulder. He was instrumental in helping with the setup of Community Colleges on Indian Reservations and was involved with the Council on Indian Affairs in Washington, D.C.

In 1981 he took the job of President of Parkersburg (W.Va.) Community College. Miller was viewed as an innovator in the field of community college education around West Virginia and across the nation. It was Miller's goal to expand the then-Parkersburg Community College beyond its two-year degree program and begin offering four-year bachelor degrees beginning in 1991, something few community colleges offered at that time. This was instrumental in P.C.C. developing its relationship with West Virginia University, and becoming a regional campus of the university as WVU-P.

Reflecting on Dr. Miller's contributions after his passing, Katie Wootten, the WVU-P director of marketing and communications said that Eldon was always looking for ways to make things better and to make a difference. "Dr. Miller was a great president and contributed significantly to the growth and success of WVU-Parkersburg." After 18 years of service, he retired in 2000. The picture here is Eldon at the Miller Plaza in front of the WVU-P main campus, which was named in his honor at the 50th anniversary of the college in 2011.



Coach Eldon Miller, Ph.D., married late in life (2005) to Mary Lou Ferrey, and they retired to The Villages in northern Florida. His contribution to Greenville was short-lived, but all who knew him will never forget him.



The BIG family pictured earlier is the family of **Clarence and Margaret Benazer** taken in 1984. The ten G.H.S. graduates and their year of graduation are:

Betty Benazer Sparklin (1966), Mary Benazer Shrad-er (1969), John Benazer (1970), Rose Benazer War-ren (1972), Jane Benazer Thompson (1972), Ed Benazer (1975), Rene Benazer Shives (1974), Con-nie Benazer Ackley (1977), Andy Benazer (1979), and Clarence "Chuck" Benazer (1983).

GHS OBITUARIES – 2013, Help keep us informed about recent events

Many of the obituaries published in the papers or by the funeral homes have biographies, relatives listed, and pictures of the decedent. We are listing the websites of the funeral homes which can provide this data to the public who asks. The sites listed have obituaries or archived obituaries on which you can click. Over 80% of the listed entries have website accessibility. Some of the older obits may be timed out or dropped, and may not still be there. If you cannot reach one of the ones by website, and would like a copy of a specific obituary we have listed, please let the Alumni Association know. We will send you a copy electronically or by mail of documentation that we have.

We have decided to go beyond the GHS graduates, and include those we can verify or remember attending GHS, even if that person did not graduate. He/she attended GHS in earlier years and is listed with the class with which that person would have graduated if he/she had stayed through commencement.

Our listings are arranged with oldest GHS alums listed first, his/her age at death, member of which class year, date of death, place of most recent residence, and the website where more information can be obtained. To find a deceased, you may use a search engine, like Google, and type in "person's name, the word > obituary, year, state, etc."

This is far from complete, using just the data we had access to, or could find.

Key to Funeral Home Website Codes

Many funeral homes have websites with the written obituaries and some have pictures of the decedent. If you go to these websites, click on obituaries and find your person of interest by name or by date. The Code Letter(s) next to person's name will tell you which websites to go to.

TYPE IN THE WEB ADDRESS AND CLICK ON "OBITUARIES". Here is the key to the Code Letters:

Z-Bwww.zecharbailey.com	O-Fwww.oliverfloyd.com
S-Bwww.storchbraundfuneralhome.com	TRIBwww.tributes.com
PYFH.....www.paulyoungfuneralhome.com	Owens.....www.owensmemorialservices.com
K.....www.KreitzerFuneralHomeInc.com	R.....obit.routsong.com
Jakubswww.Jakubs.com	BR.....www.braundfuneralhome.com
Gsb.....www.gsbfuneralhome.com	NLD.....www.neeldfuneralhome.com
GCM.....www.georgecmartinfuneralhome.com	GF.....www.gilbert-fellers.com
Row.....www.rowlandfuneralhome.com	Rob.....www.robinsonfuneralhomes.com
LEG.....www.legacy.com	N.....www.newcomerdayton.com
Reich.....www.reichardfh.com	HR.....www.hilliardrospert.com
Schoe.....www.schoedinger.com	CRM.....www.cromesfh.com
Gil-F.....www.gilbert-fellers.com	BRN.....www.barnesfuneralhome.com
CRC....www.coldrenrates.com	PYFH.....www.paulyoungfuneralhome.com
VFH...www.vernonfh.com	Find.....www.findagrave.com
Peck....peckfuneralhome.com	OPY.....www.oglepaulyoungfuneralhome.com
BLT....www.bestlifetributes.com	KDM.....kdminer.com
EXAM....www.examiner.org	Dignity.....www.dignitymemorial.com
News-Sent....www.newsandsentinel.com	NHM.....www.neidhardminges.com
Baird.....www.bairdfuneralhome.	Cochran...www.cochranfuneralhomes.com
JSFH.....jerryspearsfuneralhome.com	Mullins....www.mullinsmemorial.com
Coff.....www.coffmanfuneralhome.com	EdLee.....www.edleemortuary.com
Doan....www.doanmillsfuneralhome.com	BHS.....www.bakerhazelsnider.com
Dignity...obits.dignitymemorial.com	Laird...www.lairdfamilyfuneralservices.com
Winchester...www.winchesternewsgazette.com	Cov.....www.covenantfuneralservice.com

GHS OBITUARIES for 2013 (from oldest class):

<u>GHS Alumnus or Student, Age at Death(website code)</u>	<u>Class</u>	<u>Date of Death, Place of Residence</u>
Helen Zeller Kruckeberg, 100 (Z-B)	1931	d. May 2, Greenville, OH
Mary E. Ladd Saul Minshall, 100 (U-T San Diego)*	—	d. Feb. 14, San Diego, CA
*Mary was not a GHS graduate, but was the art teacher (1934-39) who replaced Miss Anna Bier in 1934		
C. Eugenia Lawrence Brown, 99 (Z-B)>	—	d. Oct. 18, Carmel, IN
>Eugenia was not a GHS grad, but served as School Treasurer and Board of Education Clerk, 1961-1976		
Belva Opal Upton Arens Teaford, 98 (Z-B)	1933	d. Sept. 11, Greenville, OH
Dennis G. Warner, 97 (LEG)	1934	d. Dec.27,'12, Bradenton, FL
Mary Alice Hawley Gernert, 96 (LEG)	1935	d. Oct. 24, Colorado Springs, CO
Wanda M. Schmidt Hunt, 97 (Z-B)	1935	d. June 19, Arcanum, OH
Franklin C. Morris, 96 (Z-B)>	—	d. Oct. 1, Greenville, OH
>Franklin was not a GHS grad, but was school bus driver and custodian for 20 years		
James E. Renz, 94 (Laird)	1936	d. May 19, Elgin, IL
Wesley I. Crumrine, 95 (Z-B)	1936	d. Aug. 16, Greenville, OH
George "Doyle" Garbig, 95	1936	d. Dec. 23, Arcanum, OH
John "Jack" Emory Warner, 95	1937	d. Feb. 16, Carmel, CA
Donna Elizabeth Harter Plessinger, 93 (Z-B)	1937	d. Jan. 29, Greenville, OH
Velma L. Rismiller Stonerock, 94 (Z-B)	1938	d. Dec. 3, Greenville, OH
Mary Louise Knick Burns, 93 (O-F)	1938	d. Aug. 18, Ft. Jefferson, OH
John R. Sellman, 92 (BHS)	1939	d. May 23, Tipp City/Bexley, OH
Miriam J. Lecklider Deeter, 92 (Baird)	1939	d. Dec. 22, Troy, OH/Glen Ellyn, IL
Helen L. Houslet Ross, 90 (Z-B)**	—	d. Mar. 29, Palestine, OH
**Helen was not a GHS graduate, but taught elementary first grade, 1972-1987, Greenville Twp.		
Lois E. Riggs, 91 (Z-B)	1940	d. Oct. 11, Greenville, OH
Major Robert Elmer Albright, 92 (Schoe)	1940	d. Nov. 12, Upper Arlington, OH
Richard F. Sander, 90 (Z-B)	1941	d. May 2, Greenville, OH
John W. Clark, 88 (Z-B)	1942	d. Feb. 7, Greenville, OH
Maxine V. Reck Brammer, 88 (K)	1942	d. Mar. 25, Arcanum, OH
Dorothy "Dottie" Albright Netzley Grossnickle, 88(NHM)	1942	d. July 6, Greenville, OH
John Kester,89 (LEG)	1942	d. July 28, Greenville, OH
John J. Krick, 88 (Winchester)	1943	d. Mar. 5, Shelbyville, IN
Herbert H. Stentzel, 87 (Z-B)	1943	d. Mar. 19, Greenville, OH
Doris "Jean" Mosier McIntyre, 87 (Z-B)	1943	d. May 10, Greenville, OH
E. Orleta Weaver Deubner, 87 (Z-B)	1943	d. May 28, Greenville, OH
Polly Ann Plummer Weaver, 87 (O-F)	1943	d. June 15, Greenville, OH
Robert L. Byram, 87 (Z-B)	1943	d. July 11, Greenville, OH
Naomi K. Miller Simmons, 87 (Z-B)	1944	d. Oct. 6, Versailles, OH
William D. Rhoades, 86 (Z-B)	1944	d. May 7, Greenville, OH
Betty Lucille Aten Youst, 87 (O-F)	1944	d. July 2, Greenville, OH

GHS OBITUARIES for 2013 (from oldest class):

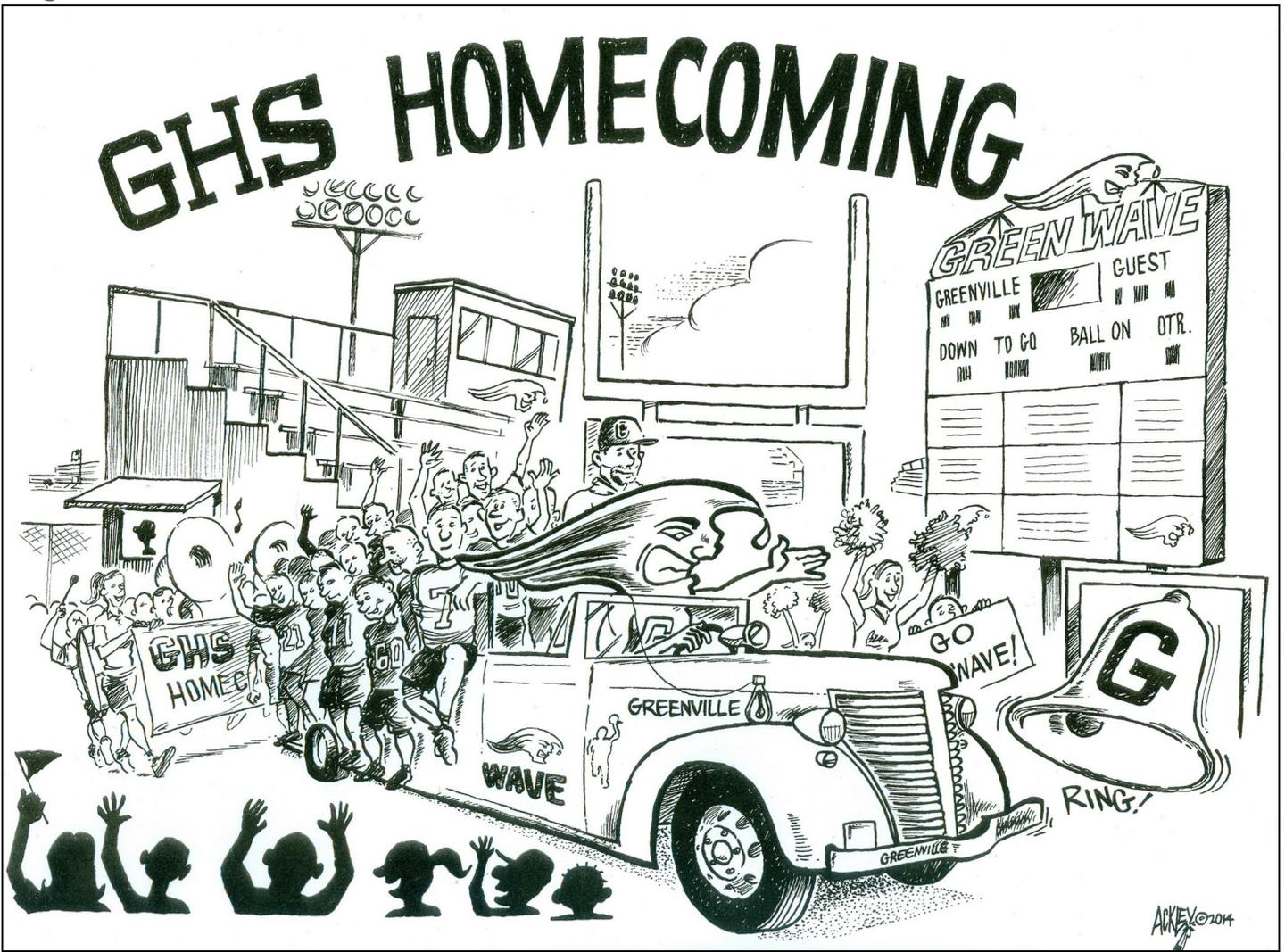
<u>GHS Alumnus or Student, Age at Death(website code)</u>	<u>Class</u>	<u>Date of Death, Place of Residence</u>
Norman E. "Bud" Teaford, 86 (O-F)	1945	d. Oct. 1, Greenville, OH
Ralph Edward Beasecker, 86 (Z-B)	1945	d. Dec. 16, Greenville, OH
Howard W. "Wally" Warren, 84 (Z-B)	1946	d. Jan. 6, Greenville, OH
Joyce Evelyn Landers Troutwine, 84 (Z-B)	1946	d. Feb. 8, Greenville, OH
Mary Lou Sackett Marker, 84 (Z-B)	1946	d. Apr. 6, Greenville, OH
Donna Rae Crain McKissick, 85 (TRIB)	1946	d. July 13, Escondido, CA
James Leonard "Jim" Pequignot, 85 (Z-B)	1946	d. Aug. 23, Greenville, OH
Roberta Louise Kester Bennett, 85 (LEG)	1946	d. Oct. 31, Union City, IN
Bevva Lee Ross Armstrong, 83 (Z-B)	1947	d. Aug. 23, Greenville, OH
Robert E. Miller, 84 (Z-B)	1947	d. Apr. 6, Greenville, OH
William Eugene Nealeigh, 84 (Z-B)	1947	d. May 11, Greenville, OH
Dr. James L. Eller, 84 (Dignity)	1947	d. June 2, Ormond Beach, FL
Mary Jane Hunt Brandon, 84 (O-F)	1947	d. June 3, Greenville, OH
James R. Baldschun, 84 (Baird)	1947	d. July 23, Troy, OH
Rodman Lynn Underwood, 83 (LEG)	1948	d. July 1, Halifax, FL
Dolores Jean Ray Coombs, 81 (Z-B)	1949	d. Feb.22, Greenville, OH
Norman C. Rhotehamel, 82 (Reich)	1949	d. Sept. 29, Union City, IN
James Robert "Bob" Miller, 82 (N)	1950	d. Sept. 8, Dayton(Riverside), OH
Joseph G.W. Mannix, 80 (TRIB)	1951	d. Jan. 20, New Braunfels, TX
Phyllis Joan Dininger Robbins, 80 (Z-B)	1951	d. Mar. 3, Greenville, OH
Charles Leo Schafer, 81	1951	d. Mar. 10, Sanford, NC
Billy Lee Garbig, 80 (BP)	1951	d. Aug. 31, Greenville, OH
Myron Gene Teaford, 79 (O-F)	1952	d. Sept. 3, Greenville, OH
William E. "Bill" Wolford, 78 (O-F)	1952	d. Feb. 23, Greenville, OH
Martha Byrdene Pretzman Clark, 79 (Z-B)	1952	d. June 5, Greenville, OH
Phyllis Carpenter Horton, 79 (Tob)	1952	d. Oct. 27, Centerville, OH
Rita J. Gessler Riegler, 80 (Z-B)	1953	d. Jan. 10, Greenville, OH
Kathleen R. Brown McEowen, 77 (O-F)	1953	d. Jan. 11, Greenville, OH
Larry L. Foureman, 77 (K)	1953	d. Jan. 14, Arcanum, OH
Patricia Lee Harney Newbauer, 77	1953	d. May 4, Orange Park, FL
William E. Michael, 78 (O-F)	1953	d. Aug. 22, Greenville, OH
Dr. William Alexander "Bill" Browne, IV, 77 (OPY)	1953	d. Apr. 13, Oxford, OH
Eldon Leon Miller, Ph.D., 77 (LEG and News-Sent)****	—	d. May 31, The Villages, FL
****Eldon graduated from Gettysburg '53, and was coach and teacher at GHS from 1962 to 1964		
Donald Eugene Moyer, 75 (Z-B)	1955	d. Jan. 10, Greenville, OH

GHS OBITUARIES for 2013 (from oldest class):

<u>GHS Alumnus or Student, Age at Death(website code)</u>	<u>Class</u>	<u>Date of Death, Place of Residence</u>
Phillip Stephen Browne, 76 (LEG)	1955	d. May 31, Huber Heights, OH
Sue Ann Sayers Foureman, 76 (Z-B)	1955	d. June 13, Greenville, OH
Henry Woodrow "Hank" Byers, Jr., 75 (BRN)	1956	d. Feb. 16, Eaton, OH
Douglas Merele Buchwalter, 74 (Dignity)	1956	d. Apr. 29, Largo, FL
Gary E. Shepherd, 74 (O-F)***	—	d. May 3, Greenville, OH
***Gary was not a GHS graduate, but taught Auto Mechanics at GHS from 1972 to 1988		
Mary Maxine Thomas, 74 (GSB)#	—	d. June 11, West Manchester, OH
#Mary was not a GHS grad, but taught Spanish at GHS from 1986 to 1991		
Nettie M. "Susie" Emrick Martin, 74 (Reich)	1957	d. Jan. 31, Union City, OH
James Don "Jimmie" Cohee, 74 (Find)	1957	d. Jan. 5, Russia, OH
Dianne Kay Sears Johnson, 74 (LEG)	1957	d. May 12, Aurora, CO
Raymond H. McNutt, Sr., 74 (Z-B)	1958	d. Apr. 18, Greenville, OH
Francis William "Frank" Doyle, 72 (KDM)	1958	d. May 10, Kingman, AZ
Dan L. Miley, 71 (Z-B)	1959	d. Feb. 17, Greenville, OH
Eugene F. "Gene" Maher, Jr., (LEG)	1959	d. Feb. 17, McConnelsville, OH
Benjamin F. "Ben" Shahan, 72 (BP)	1959	d. Dec. 15, Greenville, OH
Zona L. Peters Bashore, 70 (Z-B)	1960	d. Jan. 23, Greenville, OH
Larry J. Swab, 70 (LEG)	1960	d. May 12, Anna Maria Island, FL
Virginia Lee Whitesell Smith, 71 (LEG)	1960	d. Nov. 3, Plantation, FL
Mary Jacqueline "Jacqui" Woods Wellings, 69	1961	d. May 2, Port Orchard, WA
Frances Christine Coppock Shank, 69 (Z-B)	1961	d. July 1, Greenville, OH
Joyce "Jolly" Holthouse Patrick, 69 (Cochran)	1962	d. Sept. 13, Blue Ridge, GA
Carolyn Lou Toy Gilbert Slavens Fosdick, 66	1964	d. Feb. 24, Boerne, TX
Rodney E. Helmer, 66 (O-F)	1964	d. Jan. 23, Greenville, OH
Ardith Elaine Grimes, 67 (O-F)	1964	d. Apr. 27, Greenville, OH
Deborah Lou Shafer, 66 (O-F)	1964	d. Aug. 27, Greenville, OH
Judith Mae "Judy" Zechar Snider, 67 (Z-B)	1964	d. Aug. 31, Greenville, OH
Cynthia Kay Marker Ellis, 66 (K)	1965	d. Dec. 20, Greenville, OH
Mary Jane Dispennette Bard, 66 (Z-B)	1965	d. Dec. 26, Greenville, OH
Mark A. Shoemaker, 64 (BLT)	1966	d. Apr. 17, Red Lion, PA
Rose Maloy Partridge, 66 (Peck)	1966	d. Apr. 16, Hartselle, AL
Cris Eugene Miller, 65 (Z-B)	1966	d. Dec. 24, Greenville, OH
Cynthia Elizabeth Morton Bretschneider, 64	1967	d. Jan. 13, Syracuse, NY
Elaine Kathryn Boyer Pugh, 64 (BRN)	1967	d. June 28, Camden, OH
Lindsay Dale Trissel Brown, 64 (Z-B)	1967	d. Aug. 31, New Madison, OH
Mike Beard, 64 (Z-B)	1967	d. Sept. 12, Greenville, OH
Lonnie Lee Brown, 64 (JSFH)	1967	d. Oct. 14, Columbus, OH
Tom Hull Voiles, 63 (Z-B)	1968	d. Mar. 23, Greenville, OH

GHS OBITUARIES for 2013 (from oldest class):

<u>GHS Alumnus or Student, Age at Death(website code)</u>	<u>Class</u>	<u>Date of Death, Place of Residence</u>
Larry Duane Black, 64 (Z-B)	1968	d. Jan. 30, Versailles, OH
Verl David "David" Keller, 62 (TRIB)	1969	d. Apr. 27, Yorkville, IL
Charles D. Ditty, Jr., 61 (Z-B)	1970	d. Sept. 26, Greenville, OH
James A. "Jim" Honeycutt, 61 (Z-B)	1970	d. Dec. 12, Greenville, OH
Tony Keith Miller, 60 (Z-B)	1971	d. Nov. 6, Louisville, KY
Edward Ray Swank, 59 (O-F)	1972	d. May 17, Greenville, OH
Gregory Vincent Grimes, 61 (O-F)	1972	d. July 15, Greenville, OH
Janice Marie Howard, 58 (K)	1972	d. July 12, Arcanum, OH
Nancy "Jane" Petersime Bang, 59	1972	d. Mar. 27, Auxvasse, MO
Charles "Scott" Thomas, 58 (Cov)	1973	d. Dec. 7, Stafford County, VA
Jackie L. "Jack" Brodrick, 59 (Z-B)	1973	d. Dec. 26, Greenville, OH
Richard Leo "Rick" Liette, 58 (Z-B)	1974	d. June 5, Greenville OH
Eugenia C. "Jeannie" Enicks Giesseman, 58 (Z-B)	1974	d. Oct. 9, Greenville, OH
Julia Fields Will, 55 (VFH)	1975	d. Jan. 30, Urbana, OH
Karen Kay Oberer Stone, 56 (Z-B)	1975	d. Aug. 22, Greenville, OH
Robert David "Dave" Weaver, 56 (O-F)	1975	d. Sept. 28, Greenville, OH
Leroy Eugene Murphy, Jr., 56 (Z-B)	1975	d. Oct. 20, Greenville, OH
Blaine Allen Yoder, 54	1976	d. July 6, Covington, GA
Timothy Shane Perreira, 53 (O-F)	1977	d. Aug. 14, Greenville, OH
Douglas Allen Timmons, 53 (LEG)	1978	d. Jan. 7, Lakeland, FL
Jeanne E. Bills Swartz, 53 (Doan)	1978	d. Sept. 18, Eaton, OH
Gary L. Devor, 54 (Z-B)	1979	d. Dec. 13, Greenville, OH
Michael Lee Stutz, 52 (Z-B)	1980	d. July 27, Greenville, OH
Larry Jo Baker, 51 (Z-B)	1980	d. Sept. 27, Hiram GA
Gary Lee Kiser, 52 (O-F)	1980	d. Sept. 21, Columbus, OH
Gregory Lynn "Wilbur" Trent, 51 (Z-B)	1980	d. Oct. 8, Greenville, OH
Terry M. Maloney, 49	1982	d. Mar. 6, Meriden, CT
Angelina "Angel" Dorsten Graham, 45 (EXAM)	1986	d. Apr. 17, New Carlisle, OH
Christopher Steven Overholser, 38 (Z-B)	1993	d. Mar. 20, Columbus, OH
Julie Lynn Stull, 38 (Mullins)	1993	d. Sept. 22, Cape Coral, FL
Annette Marie Lenker, 33 (Coff)	1999	d. Oct. 14, Sharpsburg, VA
Margaret Marie Richards, 32 (BP)	1999	d. Aug. 30, Greenville, OH
Kristen Marie Ricci Leese, 29 (Z-B)	2001	d. Mar. 14, Greenville, OH
Brandon D. Hampton, 26 (Z-B)	2005	d. Oct. 6, Greenville, OH
Daniel Stephan "Danny" Whitley II, 25 (BP)	2007	d. Dec. 17, Wayne Lakes, OH
Jenna Allys Reck, 25 (BP)	2008	d. Oct. 2, Greenville, OH
William David Compton III, 18 (EdLee)	2013	d. Oct. 14, Jasper, IN
Corynna R. Strawser, 16 (Z-B)	2015	d. Dec. 11, Greenville, OH



Stay Connected for Updated GHS Information On-Line

GHS Alumni Association is now on Facebook, copy this address into your browser, <https://www.facebook.com/GreenvilleOHGHSAumni>, stop in and visit, click on Like and be our friend. Thanks to Betsy Brown, GHS '05, for launching this Facebook page for us and Terra Denniston, '97, ctdenniston@roadrunner.com, for keeping our Facebook page up and running.

- Our GHS Alumni Association www.greenvillealumni.net **(includes all upcoming Reunions!)**
- Greenville City Schools www.greenville.k12.oh.us
- Greenville and Darke County news www.darkejournal.com
- Darke County's Social Network www.darkejournal.ning.com
- Darke County Genealogy [//ohdarke.ohgenweb.net/](http://ohdarke.ohgenweb.net/)
- Darke County Center for the Arts www.centerforthearts.net
- Maps, interactive, satellite, & static [//mapsof.net/darke_county](http://mapsof.net/darke_county)
- Blog site for Greenville City Schools [//greenvillemcityschools.blogspot.com](http://greenvillemcityschools.blogspot.com)
- Local Newspaper online www.dailyadvocate.com (some portions require subscription)
- Greenville's interactive radio station [//wave96.net](http://wave96.net)
- GHS Class of 1969 [//groups.yahoo.com/group/greenville69](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/greenville69)
- GHS Class of 1971 Facebook, search for "Greenville High School Class of 1971"
- GHS Class of 1973 www.ghs73.org
- GHS Class of 1974 www.greenwave1974.com
- GHS Class of 1975 on www.facebook.com ...Search for "Greenville (Ohio) High School GHS Class of 1975"
- GHS Class of 1986 on www.facebook.com ...Search for "Ohio GHS '86"