

**CLASS OF 1966**

**60<sup>th</sup> YEAR  
DIAMOND ANNIVERSARY  
SOUVENIR BOOK**

**June 11-14, 2026**

**CAROL W. HAYES HIGH SCHOOL  
505 43<sup>rd</sup> Street North  
Birmingham, Alabama 35222**

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# WELCOME CLASS OF 1966!

## Celebrating 60 Years - Our Diamond Reunion

Dear Classmates,

Can you believe it? **Sixty years!**

It seems like just yesterday, we were walking the halls of Hayes High School, hurrying to class, laughing with friends, cheering at games, and counting down the days to graduation. Even though our beloved school has been replaced with a new building now and serves as a K-8 school, it will always be our high school in our hearts.

Over these 6 decades, life has certainly taken us on many different paths. We've built careers, raised families, served our communities, celebrated joys, faced challenges, and gathered a lifetime of stories. Through it all, we share one special bond: **We are, and always will be, the Hayes High School Class of 1966 and Pacesetters forever!**

This Diamond Anniversary is more than just a date on the calendar. It's a time to reconnect, reminisce, honor classmates we hold in loving memory, and celebrate the journey we've traveled together-even though we were miles apart.

As we spend these days together, we hope you will laugh, hug, share memories, and maybe even feel like a teenager again for a little while. Thank you for coming, for staying connected, and continuing showing pride in our class and support for our school.

We are glad you are here. It has truly been a labor of love to bring this reunion together.

With warm hearts,

YOUR 60<sup>TH</sup> Reunion Planning Committee

Janice Doyle Watts, Chairman

Valencia Stephens Oliver, Asst. Secy.

Harold Jennings, Co-Chairman

Thelma Taylor, Asst. Treasurer #1

Carol Ross Gay, Treasurer

Gloria Boyd Clark, Asst. Treasurer #2

Carolyn Sherman Thomas, Secretary



## CAROL W. HAYES SCHOOL

**THEN**

**Carol W. Hayes  
High School**



**NOW**

**Carol W.  
Hayes School  
(K-8)**





## **RESOLUTION**

**Recognizing The Class Reunion of Carol W. Hayes High School Class of 1966**

**WHEREAS, The Carol W. Hayes High School, located at 504 Street North, Birmingham, Alabama 35222, at the current location of the Hayes K-8 school, and WHEREAS The Graduating class of 1966 is celebrating its 60th anniversary this year, and**

**WHEREAS this special Diamond Anniversary Reunion will give the 1966 graduates the opportunity to reflect upon years gone by and the wonderful moments they shared as classmates while preparing themselves for the challenges that would await them in the adult world, and**

**WHEREAS, The Carol W. Hayes High School Alumni Association, Incorporated would like to recognize 1966 graduates as they renew old acquaintances at this historic moment of achievement and wish them only the best, and**

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Carol W. Hayes High School Alumni Association, Incorporated, that this resolution applauds and commends the Carol W. Hayes High School class of 1966 on its 60th Class Reunion. Adopted: June 1, 2026**

**TESTE:**

**Bryan Green, Executive Director**

**Carol W. Hayes High School Alumni Assn. Inc.**

**Dennis Jenkins, Board of Directors, Chairman**

**Carol W. Hayes High School Alumni Assn. Inc.**



# City of Birmingham

Office of Mayor Randall L. Woodfin



**May 1, 2026**

**Dear Hayes High School Class of 1966:**

**The City of Birmingham proudly extends its warmest congratulations to the Carol W. Hayes High School Class of 1966 on the celebration of your 60-Year Diamond Anniversary.**

**Your graduating class, 315 strong, left a lasting legacy of excellence, leadership, and community pride under the guidance of your principal, Mr. J. B. Norman. Today, six decades later, that legacy continues to shine through your enduring commitment to each other, to the Hayes Alumni Association, and to the students of the rebuilt Hayes K-8 School.**

**Birmingham honors and celebrates your unwavering Pacesetter spirit. Your motto: "Once a Pacesetter, Always a Pacesetter," remains an inspiration to generations of Hayes students and alumni.**

**As you gather during Hayes Week, June 11-14, 2026, may your reunion be filled with joy, fellowship, cherished memories, and renewed purpose. Your loyalty to your school and to the East Birmingham community exemplifies the very best of our city.**

**The City of Birmingham congratulates you on this remarkable milestone and thanks you for the many ways you continue to uplift our community. Warmest regards,**

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "R. Woodfin".

**Randall L. Woodfin**

**Mayor, City of Birmingham**

# **SCHEDULE OF 60<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY EVENTS**

•**Saturday, June 6, 2026** 10 am – 12 noon

**PACESETTER LEGACY BRUNCH** Celebrating Hayes High

School Classes of '62 – '69 Hayes K-8 School Lunchroom.

•**Thursday, June 11, 2026** 12 noon

**LUNCHEON** for the '66 class at Cracker Barrel in Gardendale

901 Fieldstown Road Gardendale, AL 35071

•**Friday, June 12, 2026** 6pm–11pm

**DINNER-DANCE** at Reflections at the Cedar

(formerly the Cedar Club), located at 301 Green

Springs Avenue South Homewood, AL 35209

Attire is Denim and Pearls. It is a BYOB.

'**Saturday, June 13, 2026** 11am–4pm

**ALUMNI PICNIC** MLK, Jr Park in North Avondale.

•**Sunday, June 14, 2026** 10am

**CHURCH SERVICE** Bethel Baptist Church in Collegeville

3233 29<sup>th</sup> Avenue North Birmingham, AL.

Repass after church service in Fellowship Hall.

## WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

“My teacher, Mrs. Crews, at Hayes High School, told me that I should become a Social Worker. She had a great influence on me. I actually became a Social Worker with the Food Stamp Office in Birmingham for over 30 years before I retired. Thank you, Mrs Crews, for your insight.” **Judith A. Woodall**



“I took German from Mrs. Laverne Comer at Hayes High School and at Alabama A&M University and right now what I remember is “nein.” In German, nein means no, nothing. I am living in Pensacola, Florida now with my husband, Robert English, also a Pacesetter for the 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> grades only.” **Georgia Ann Cannon English**

“After my graduation in 1966, I married my wife, Shirley. In 1969 we moved to Milwaukee, Wisconsin. While working in Milwaukee I became a member of the Milwaukee Starlight team which is a semi-professional softball team. I played 13 seasons. During that time I won a Golden Glove Award. I worked for General Electric Health Care and retired after 35 years. Now I am enjoying my retirement.” **Everett L. Curry, Jr.**



“My teachers would continuously tell me to always do the best I can do in order to be the best I can be. I still live in Birmingham, AL.” **Janet Doyle Nelson**



“I am currently married. My wife and I celebrated our 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in May this year. We have one son. We reside in Stockbridge, Georgia. I am a Howard University graduate with a BA in Business Management I worked as a Purchasing Manager with Norfolk Southern Railroad for 15 years, owned and operated a business for 6 years. I’ve also worked in several managerial positions within the Georgia State Government. I am active in my church, enjoy traveling, and playing golf.” **Donald Williams**



“I am enjoying retirement from AT&T after 37 years. I currently enjoy spending time with my family and friends, baking, crocheting, and attending Mount Mariah Baptist Church in Birmingham, AL.” **Marian Gunn-Carter**



“I am Claudia Fluker Marks. I am a retired teacher from the Birmingham City School System. I served 30 years as a fifth grade teacher. I have a daughter, two granddaughters and a grandson. Enjoy reading novels, doing crossword puzzles, going to church and listening to gospel music. Let us remember to always put God first.” **Claudia Fluker Marks**



I reside in Birmingham, AL. I was a Food Service Supervisor at Cooper Green Hospital for 30 years, baked Birthday Cakes, Wedding Cakes and everyday cakes for 40 years. I was a travel agent for 4 years. I retired in 2003. I am a Trustee and the Usher Ministry Floor Manager at my church, New Bethel Baptist Church. I love planning events, cruising, doing word search puzzles, watching soaps, listening to jazz, Luther Vandross and Lou Rawls. I plan to retire again soon.” **Carolyn Elaine Sherman Thomas**



# THE FUTURE CLASS OF 1966



**Harriette Hogan**



**Marian Gunn**



**Jerome Johnson**



**Carolyn Sherman**



**Carol Hooks**



**Donald Williams**



**Norma Johnson.**



**Ronald Lewis**



**Everett L Curry .Jr.**



Janice, Jesse, and Janet Doyle

**A BLAST FROM THE PAST!**



---

**CAN YOU GUESS WHO THEY ARE?**

## IN LOVING MEMORY

Sandra Anderson  
Larry Austin  
Jessie Bell  
Joe Henry Bell  
Patricia Bentley Jackson  
Beatrice Berry Dowdell  
Donald Bibb  
Charlotte Billips  
Charles Ann Bohannon

Jessica Bowie  
Joan Bunch  
Jonathon Burch  
Michael Burton  
Mary Childs  
Ireda Clancey  
Dorothy Cowan Thomas  
Annie Cox Anthony  
Lucinda Cox  
Sonya Ray Crump  
Gregeory Debose  
Linda Doyle  
Herman Evans  
Joyce Lee Fuller  
Barbara Gay  
Doris Jean Grant  
Wanda Grey Smith  
Bessie Griffin  
Johnny Grubbs  
Linda Juanita Hail  
Carolyn Harrell Evans  
Robert Lovell Heath  
Larry Hill  
Valeria Hollins  
Charles Holmes  
George Holt  
Willie Horace  
Gloria Horne

Brenda Joyce Johnson  
Chester Johnson  
Humphrey Johnson  
Dwight Kimbrough  
Rudolph Knight  
Adrian Lawler  
Isiah Lawson  
Isiah Lawson  
James Lawson  
Dorothy Long  
Carl Lowe  
James Earl Marsh  
Beverly McKinney  
Mary Esther Meadows  
Larry Mitchell  
Louis C. Monroe  
Robert E Montgomery  
Jacquelyn Morgan  
Judy Moore Jackson  
Shirley Murray  
Emmetta Pardon  
Robert Lee Porter  
Linda Purter  
Roland Quinn  
Simon Randall  
Ruby Reese Morris  
Barbara Reliford  
Miriam Rembert  
Joyce Ellen Ricks  
Martha Rogers  
Edward Ross  
Carolyn Rutledge  
Rocalious Short  
Ann Simpson Mason  
Veronica Sims  
Barbara Stanberry Merkinson  
John Stinson  
Jeffrey Stribblin

Chester Tate  
Gwendolyn Tenant  
Nancy Threat  
Sandra Urqhart  
Billvia Vernon Henderson  
Edward Wallace

James Weaver  
Chester Webb  
Hudson Wells  
Larry Whitehead  
Howard Whitt  
Sharron Williams  
Jo Ethel Wilson  
Robert Earl Young  
Gloria Zorns  
Cynthia Mapson Gibson  
Allene Parker  
Michael Dawson  
Faye Noble

## FOREVER IN OUR HEARTS

## **INVENTIONS AND FIRSTS OF 1966**

**Twister (the game) was introduced by Milton Bradley.**

**First artificial heart implant attempt – performed by Dr. Michael DeBakey's team in Houston.**

**Hand-held electronic calculator prototype was developed by Texas Instruments' Engineers.**

**Luna 9-Soviet spacecraft achieved the first soft landing on the moon (Feb. 1966).**

**Surveyor 1 – US spacecraft made the first American soft landing on the moon (June 1966).**

## **SIGNIFICANT EVENTS IN 1966**

**The first episode of "Star Trek" aired on television.**

**The Vietnam War escalated.**

**The iconic "Batman" series premiered.**

**Motown Records emerged as a dominant force, producing hits from artists like the Supremes and Marvin Gaye.**

**The Beatles and other British invasion bands began to incorporate Black musical influences into their work.**

**The Lava Lamp became an icon of the Psychedelic '60's.**

## **THEN (1966) and NOW (2026)**

**(What a difference 60 years can make!)**

- **Car Safety** - Safety in 1966 was basic. The 2026 models includes multiple airbags, collision avoidance system and advanced safety ratings.
- **Gas Prices** – Gas prices in 1966 averaged \$.32 per gallon. Today in 2026 the average is over \$4.00 per gallon.
- **Tuition** – In 1966 the average total cost of a year in college was about \$12, 130. As of today, in 2026, it falls just under \$28,000 per year.

## **HISTORICAL EVENTS IN 1966**

- **Toyota Corolla**- the popular compact car first came off the assembly line in 1966.
- **Quaker Instant Oatmeal**- Quaker introduced the speedy method to cook the classic breakfast food.
- **Wite Out**- has been fixing little mistakes and typos that an eraser could not handle since 1966.
- **Doritos**- the cheesy guilty pleasure first made its way onto the grocery shelves nationwide in 1966.
- **Astroturf**- hit it big in 1966 when it was put on the newly opened Houston Astrodome.
- **Hayes High School in Birmingham, Al.** introduced a group of 315 graduates in 1966 that were destined to be “UNFORGETTABLE!”

*Congratulations!*

From the hallways of Carol W. Hayes High School to a lifetime of adventures. The Class of 1966 is still setting the pace, building life-long friendships, and creating unforgettable memories after 60 years!

Cheers to the Class of 1966 and  
Carolyn Sherman Thomas on this Grand Milestone

**Victoria Steele**  
**Class of 1977**



## CELEBRATING YOUR LEGACY WITH ADMIRATION

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Debbie Pitts Palmer is a SuperStar Director.

**Debbie Pitts Palmer**

**CHEERS to**  
**60 Incredible Years, Class of '66**  
**Jeffery Hall, c/o '77 and Family**

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\*\*\*\*\*

GiGi's Sweets     Home Baker  
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**Honoring the Past and Celebrating the Present**

To Carolyn Thomas and the '66 Class of Hayes High School  
on your 60th Anniversary  
We congratulate you and pray that you flourish with God's Blessings.



New Bethel Baptist Church  
Rev. Leon Dowe Jr., Pastor  
Prophetess Monica Dowe, First Lady

*Congratulations*  
TO MY AUNT CAROLYN AND COUSIN JUDITH  
on your 60th Anniversary  
**Class of 1966**  
CAROL W. HAYES HIGH SCHOOL

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**Best Wishes  
Class of '66**

**“Your Story -  
Your Book”**



**Jackie Sherman Henderson & Family**

**404-299-8906**

***WARMEST CONGRATULATIONS!***

***Wishing the Class of 1966  
“Continued Joy and  
Cherished Memories”***



***Lynda Boggan Williams***

***Class of 1977***

**IRS E-FILE begin January 26, 2026**  
**Office opens January 12, 2026**

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**Best Wishes From  
LAVORA COOPER LITTLE**

# CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF 1966 **NET'S PHOTO EXPERIENCE**



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netsphotoexperience@yahoo.com  
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1301 Center Point Parkway, Ste 111  
Birmingham, Alabama 35215



**piggly wiggly**

*Down Home, Down The Street.™*

**To Hayes High School Class of 1966  
on your Diamond Anniversary**

Celebrating where you've been  
and all that is ahead.

From then to now – what an  
extraordinary journey.

- The Pig

# **CONGRATULATIONS! LOVE'S CATERING**

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## **To the Distinguished Class of 1966 at Carol W. Hayes High School**

Bryan and I would like to extend our heartfelt appreciation to the Carol W. Hayes High School **Class of 1966** for your enduring legacy, unwavering support, and commitment to exemplify excellence, leadership, and the true spirit of what it means to be a Pacesetter.

Thank you for paving the way and inspiring future generations through your service, wisdom, and dedication to our school and community. May the bonds of friendship and love that unite you continue to grow stronger with each passing year. Congratulations on your  
**60<sup>th</sup> Reunion Anniversary.**

With sincere gratitude and appreciation,

**Bryan & Shannon Green**



### **1966 CLASS in 2006**



## **CONGRATULATIONS**

To The Class of 1966 on  
Your 60<sup>th</sup> Class Reunion

### **In Loving Memory of Our Loving Parents:**

**Edna and Harold Pearson Sr.** who taught all 9 of their children that they can do all things through Christ who strengthens them, but fail. Education was important to them as shown by their abundance of offsprings who attended Hayes Middle and High School, which also included one of the very first Hayes High Valedictorians in the Class of 1963 and the very last Hayes High Valedictorian in the Class of 2008.



The late **Margaret** Pearson Junior (Parker c/o '59)

The late **Mildred** Pearson Freeman (Parker c/o '61)

The late **Harold** Pearson, Jr. c/o '63

The late **Virginia** Pearson Thompkins c/o '65

**Herman** Pearson c/o '66

The Late **Lynda** Pearson Robinson, Woodlawn c/o '69

**(1<sup>st</sup> Black Valedictorian)**

**Vanessa** Pearson Hayes c/o '71

**Deborah** Pearson Lavender c/o '77

**Renita** Pearson, c/o '78

### **THE PEARSON FAMILY**

# CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF '66

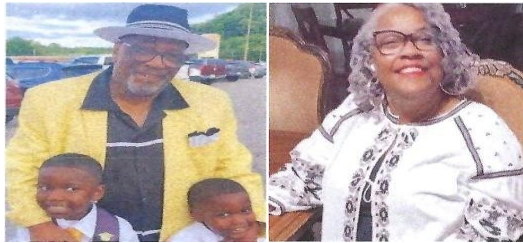
60 Years of Memories  
(Some Clearer Than Others)

## THE SHERMAN FAMILY



## **A LEGACY WORTH CELEBRATING!**

Best Wishes to the Class of 1966  
Frank, c/o '77 and Terri Davis



## **Honoring 60 Years of Memories and Achievements To the Hayes High School Class of 1966**



**Geneva Chapter #59  
of the  
Order of the Eastern Star  
Birmingham, Alabama**

Natalie Fuller, Matron  
Satoya Byrd, Associate Matron  
Edith Williams, Secretary

**In Loving Memory of**  
**Annie Mary Cox Garfield Anthony**

A beloved member of the Class of 1966, Annie Mary Cox Garfield Anthony is remembered with love, respect, and gratitude. She lived a life marked by strength, grace, and devotion to family, leaving behind a legacy of kindness and quiet dignity.

She is lovingly remembered by her daughter, Dr. Kimberly Garfield Kelly, Carol W. Hayes High School Class of 1984 and son, Theophilisie "Theo" Garfield. Her memory will forever remain in the hearts of those who knew and loved her.



## CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF 1966



*"Your Humble Servants Who Care"*

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[www.jelksfuneralhome.com](http://www.jelksfuneralhome.com)

*Pay your respects, not your life savings*

*Proof that "Time flies  
when you survive  
High School TOGETHER"*

# **CONGRATULATIONS!**

**To the 1966 Class of Hayes High School**

**60 years later and STILL CLASSY!**

## **THE HOBBS FAMILY**



**CLASS OF 1977**



**BOOKER T.  
HOBBS**

# CONGRATULATIONS

**Class of 1966 on your Diamond Anniversary!  
May God continue to bless and keep you always.**



**ALBERT SCRUGGS, JR.**

**(c/o May 1964)**

**and THERESA HARRIS**

**SCRUGGS**

**With Heartfelt Recognition  
of this Special Anniversary**

To the Class of 1966 after 60 years - Congratulations!  
In Loving Memory of my brother,

**Seyvon Brown, Sr., c/o '65**



**I Love You, Lenora Dorsey and Family**

**Here's to a Lifetime of Friendship & Shared History  
on the 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Class of 1966**

"Friends are hard to find, difficult to leave, and impossible to forget"



Janice Doyle Watts, Norma Johnson McKinney, and  
Janet Doyle Nelson

# PATRONS

for the class of 1966

Celebrating where you've been and all that's ahead!

|                           |                            |                                 |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Rev Leon Dowe, Jr.        | Monica Dowe                | Kimberly Garfield Kelly c/o '84 |
| Valerisa Groves           | Lynda B. Williams c/o '77  | Jakeem Jackson                  |
| Linda Aaron c/o '67       | Alan Lenard Sherman        | Cherry Johnson                  |
| Patricia Loadholt         | Audrey S. Jackson c/o '73  | Zayden Sanders                  |
| Sharon Dowe               | Doris S. Jones c/o '75     | Ivan Jones c/o '07              |
| Erica Jackson             | Dennis Jenkins c/o '79     | Tariq Sanders                   |
| Lelia Holcombe            | Sherita Jackson            | Gwen Freeney                    |
| Amanda Sims               | Beverly Woodall            | Shaun Roscoe                    |
| Cathy Anderson            | Anderson Todd III c/o '68  | Darryl Dowe                     |
| Alma Ball c/o '67         | Althea Braxton             | Kecia Dowe                      |
| Archie Blackmon c/o '65   | Joseph Edwards             | Walter Studivant                |
| Anna McMullen c/o '73     | NaShaye Jackson            | Taffaly Monroe c/o '84          |
| Ronald Lewis c/o '66      | Bryan Green c/o '85        | Brenda D Quinn c/o '66          |
| Albertene Lewis           | Staci A Paige              | Judith Woodall c/o '66          |
| Annie Gilmore c/o '67     | Jaquelyn Henderson c/o '67 | Katrina W Allen c/o '84         |
| Annette Pratt             | Sharron H Mitchell c/o '66 | Taffaly Monroe c/o '84          |
| Katharine Young c/o '86   | Thelma Taylor c/o '66      | Gloria Boyd Clark c/o '66       |
| Patricia Frazier c/o '70  | Janice Doyle Watts c/o '66 | Edith Williams                  |
| Carol R Gay c/o '66       | Harold Jennings c/o '66    | Janet D Nelson c/o '66          |
| Annie Cox Anthony c/o '66 | Valencia S Oliver c/o '66  | Rev. Jimmy Burton c/o '62       |
| Shirley Norwood           | Rev. Didalious Hill        |                                 |

# **PHOTOS! PHOTOS! PHOTOS!**

**Do you recognize anybody from the '66 class?**



**Alonza Allen**



**Bonnie Harris**



**Debra Johnson**



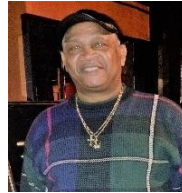
**Delores Jones**



**Elvin Ivory**



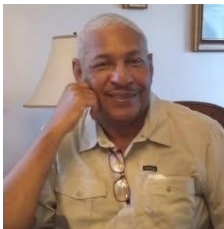
**Ernestine Bugg**



**Everett Curry**



**Gloria Clark**



**Harold Jennings**



**James Arrington**



**James Dye**



**John Davis**



Carolyn Sherman  
Thomas



James Moss



Rillia James



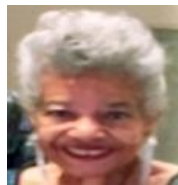
Pamela Simpson  
Collins



Janice Herod  
Wilson



Mary Floyd  
Fry



Harriette Hogan  
Wilson



Marian Gunn  
Carter



Rebeka Jackson  
Hoover

## Pacesetters Hard At Work Having FUN!



# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

**Graphic Designer:** Jackie Sherman Henderson, c/o '67

**T-Shirts:** Terry Burney 205-919-5763

**Class Reunion Table Decorator:** Thelma Taylor

**Gift Bag Designer:** Lynda Boggan Williams c/o '77

**Caterer for Picnic:** Love's Catering, Sherita Jackson and Donald Grice, Owners.

**Consultants:** Alma Ball, Alan Sherman, Jackie Henderson, Staci Paige, Archie Blackmon, Daryl Henderson, Lynda B Williams

**Planning Committee Members:** Janice Doyle Watts, Harold Jennings, Carolyn Sherman Thomas, Valencia Stephens Oliver, Carol Ross Gay, Thelma Taylor and Gloria Boyd Clark

Thanks to everyone who helped make this Diamond Anniversary a great success. We appreciate everything you did. With you and God's divine mercy, we made it.

**From Bell Bottoms to Bifocals - What a Ride!**