

**Family**

*Daughter:* Dede, 47  
*Sons:* Mike, 44 & Steve, 42

*Grandchildren:* 4  
 Dede had Rebecca, 16 & Alex, 12 (boy); Steve has William, 5 & Emma, 3

*Dede* and family live in Newton, KS, a treat to have them so close, after they've lived in other states.

*Steve* and family live in Alexandria, VA. Grandchildren are wonderful.

*Mike*, who is single, lives in Manhattan, works at Auntie Mae's Parlor. What luck and a pleasure it is to have him around.



**Janet L. (Kridler) DUNCAN**

Spouse: Pat

1270 Bluemont Scenic Dr  
 Manhattan, KS 66502

(785) 776-8101

Cell: (785) 564-0002

[bullbox@aol.com](mailto:bullbox@aol.com)

**Pet Friends**

Ohhh, so many good dogs! Life would be much duller without dogs. We live now with Whoopsie Dazie and Cookie, two female bull-mastiffs—and often have BB, our daughter's bullmastiff. Moxie Too, whom we lost last year, was a real charmer. (Photo: Janet Duncan p. 2)



**1950s Pop Culture**

*Favorite songs/singers in HS:* I didn't buy records, listen to pop music at home, or play the jukebox much as a teenager, so I don't remember having a "favorite" song in pop music—maybe Guy Mitchell's "Singin' the Blues" and from movies, Don Cornell's "Fly Me to the Moon". I loved songs from Broadway musicals: *The Pajama Game*, *Damn Yankees* and *My Fair Lady*. I liked black groups that sang great harmony like the Mills Bros., Ink Spots, and Platters. Jazz was GREAT—Stan Kenton, Duke Ellington, Gene Krupa & Ella Fitzgerald. I've always been a Classical music lover, so I have to mention the rise of Leonard Bernstein and his brash, stirring music—wild on the podium to match his music.

*Favorite 1950s songs/singers now:* All of them—the nostalgia factor, but my real loves are still Classical, Musicals & Jazz. I've added Opera, which I knew nothing about in high school, except *Carmen Jones*, which I loved

**Sports**

I wish I still played—I loved squash and racquetball until my knees went soft.

**Hobbies / Interests**

I like gardening, walking, photography, reading, writing, and watching KSU sports and the Kansas City Chiefs. I used to sing in choirs, but my voice is now not so good. I miss this part of my life very much. I tried to sing here, but it didn't work out.

**Proudest Achievements**

I don't know "proudest", but a moment that made me very happy was a standing ovation I got for a one-act musical play I'd written for a club in Holland. There is tremendous talent in the English-speaking communities in foreign cities. Our director had just moved from NYC, where she'd worked in theater. The play was a great success. I'd had to play one of the character roles in the play, but the best moment came when I was introduced at the end as the writer.

**Career / Post High School Education**

*Career:* I did a variety of things, but we moved too often for me to say I "retired" from anything. I taught math and science in high school; I was Dir. of Div. of Certification for Med. Lab. personnel for the Am. Society of Clinical Pathologists; I worked for the USAID in Cairo, Egypt. All together, I lacked a year of paid work for full Social Security benefits. My volunteer jobs have been as rewarding my paid ones, and I certainly learned as much in doing them.

*Post HS Education:* Kansas State Univ.—BS, Math/Physical Sci.; MS, Statistics; PhD, Applied Statistics (minors in math and genetics)

**Travel**

20 years of living abroad in **Iran, Egypt (2x) Holland, England, Argentina, & Trinidad**. We traveled widely to, from and within wherever we were.

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**1950s Pop Culture** (continued)

*Favorite movies in HS:* Working at theaters, I watched a lot of movies. I loved —still love—musicals. I enjoyed Eddie Fisher/Debbie Reynolds (“Tammy” movies), Pat Boone, Doris Day, & Deborah Kerr. I never felt I was sophisticated enough for Elizabeth Taylor movies, but she was gorgeous. I liked Frank Sinatra and cowboy movies. I’d go to about any movie—even war movies didn’t drive me out. (I could watch them without hiding my head in my lap; people watching those movies still had imaginations.) We’d go to the movies, sit down and start watching no matter where in the movie we’d come in—then stay until it got back to where we came in.  
*Favorite 1950s movies now:* High school was my movie hey-day.

**Janet L. (Krider) DUNCAN**  
**Memories** (continued)

**Volunteer**

Tutoring for local Hand-to-Hand program; MHS Alumni Assoc., editor for *The Alumni Mentor*; Conversation companion for foreign students. I’ve read science and math texts for Books on Tape for blind students (or whatever was needed.)

**MHS Memories**

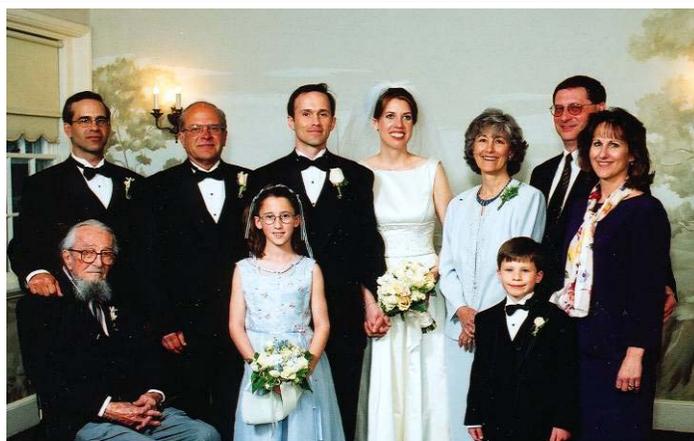
- Teen Town—a great place to meet on Fri. nights.
- Viv & I making 100s of cherry blossoms for the *Mikado*; meeting Pat at the *Brigadoon* cast party
- Favorite teachers: Mrs. Mildred Sykes—tuned my love of writing; Larry Norvell—putting up with band trips & orchestra; Bobby Boles—made biology a lifelong love; Ralph Rogers—good person; Mrs. Ball—I hated “What’s new in the news today?” but I have read newspapers daily since.
- Remember the school program where we worked at a Manhattan business? I wasn’t smart enough to choose someplace where I could LEARN. I’d heard dept. stores gave good gifts so I was in it for the prize. I worked at Cole’s in the glove dept. Almost nobody came into the glove dept. It was boring. I wanted to stuff myself inside the little pneumatic tube and fly up to Accounting—because they could see the whole store and they, undoubtedly, had something to do! I don’t remember the gift.
- I have remembered always the three funerals of our high school years: Gary Hixon, Judy Watson and Jean VanValkenburgh—so hard.



Janet with a trio of bullmastiffs in tow (L-r): Cookie, the young red fawn; Whoopsie Dazie, the brindle, center; & her daughter’s family dog, the elderly BB. (Photo by granddaughter Rebecca)

**Manhattan Memories—Jobs**

Working for Mr. Fellers at the theaters—two things stand out: 1) when a Bridgitte Bardot movie came to the Coed, which had the 2-second scene where, if you looked in the mirror (ie not at her), you could see her fully & frontally naked. We all quickly learned the music or dialog that came on right before the quick peek, so we could be ready to get our own quick peek. 2) That’s where I talked to my K-State basketball heroes, Bob Boozer & Don Matuzak, who would come in on Friday nights. (I’m still a BB fan.) I worked most at the Coed but sometimes at the State or the Campus (Sosna?), and later at the Wareham Theater, which must have become joined the group.



Family at son’s 2002 wedding: *Back row (L-r):* Son Mike, Pat, son Steve & Elisabeth, Janet, son-in-law Doug & daughter Dede. *Front row (L-r):* Father, Alden Krider, Dede’s children: Rebecca & Alex.