

**Family & Pet Friends**

My family is composed of many friends and three blood relations: my brother Ed and nephews Evan & Pearce. I am sure there are many more distant blood relations out there, after all many of us are descended from Charlemagne and Mayflower passengers, etc. I feel fortunate that my ex-husband and I are good friends and he is part of this family bouquet.

*Pets like family:* I have a little white American Eskimo dog named John Paul, named for Pope John Paul II. This little dog, too, is a man in white. My most interesting pet was a raccoon that I named Rockford Otis. He disarranged as much as possible and ate lots of Topsy's popcorn balls while he was with me.



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**MHS Memories**

The MHS time of my life is pretty much one I have left behind. I do think of the many, many good persons in that class. As I write this, I am thinking directly about Norma Rice, Lauren Miller, Janet Krider, Sherry Sowell, Margene Blasing & Darlene Allen. There are so many others I could bring up.



**Career / Post High School Education**

*Career:* Jobs have varied from being a teacher in a junior college in MI, to being a recreation specialist and later a management analyst with the Dept. of the Army. I am now a case mgr, at Big Lakes Developmental Center here in Manhattan and coordinate services for developmentally disabled, mentally retarded children and adults. It gives me a chance to help others while being paid. Rah!

*Post High School Education:* Since leaving the class, I got educated more, with three degrees from KSU. The latest was in 1993 and in horticultural therapy. The very best part of my education has been in the school of life.

**SEASONAL WEIRDNESS**

Somewhere in the outback of Australia

In this world,  
In this Universe or beyond  
There may be a massage parlor for kangaroos.

This little bit of weirdness expressed  
Must be resulting from my giddiness  
Giddiness at approach of another season  
Spring here, autumn in Australia.

Wherever you are, whoever you are

Spring forward like a kangaroo  
Catch the gusto or get a massage or both  
Or kiss a koala bear so soft.

**Proudest Achievements**

I am proud that most of the time, I live my life true to my inner voice and guiding principles of treating others with respect, compassion and love. I have gotten to the point that I am not a pawn in societal prescriptions as to how to live my life. Actually, I would say that more than my pride being satisfied here, that it is functional for me to be able to live this way.

**Hobbies / Interests**

My passions in life are being with others and sharing and laughing; being creative in many ways; gardening; reading; spirituality; cooking; learning new stuff and making discoveries; listening to music live or recorded and generally slumming as I see fit. I love to slum around KS—visiting small towns and taking part in some festivals. Bluegrass music is one of my favorites, and I get to hear it live any Fri. night that I attend the local jam. I have been to the Winfield bluegrass event several times. In the communal spirit, I occasionally go to a local drumming circle and participate. My creativity takes many forms, but I have found writing poetry to be especially gratifying. I will end this by sharing one of my more fun poems.

**NEVER KISS A KANGAROO!**

