

Family & Pet Friends

Sons: Geoffrey & Gerald
Grandchildren: 2 biological & 4 step

Great-grandchildren: 1

Geoff has his MBA, spent 16 years as a police officer including one year with the UN Mission in Kosovo and has worked for Geico Ins. for several years. *Gerry* has his PhD and is a wildlife biology professor at the U. of Dubuque, with research done in Paraguay. *Larry* has his PhD in Land Use Law and Economics and was a professor of landscape architecture for years before retiring, He consults with land developers.

Pets like family: We always have pets, and they are always part of the family!! Right now, we have two large dogs and three cats.



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Proudest Accomplishments

I am proud of my degrees, recognition I received at the university & recognition/offices at state & national levels of my professional assoc. When children “turn out well”, parents can’t help but be proud and bask in their children’s reflected glory. Watching Geoff & Gerry receive their degrees were proud moments. We are proud of them as parents of their own children and in their professional lives.

Left: Granddaughter Maddie;

Hobbies / Interests / Volunteer

Hobbies & Interests: Reading, needlework, some gardening, travel, crafts, crossword puzzles & cryptoquips—and did I mention reading? I have fun with the Red Hats!

Volunteer: Currently, I’m a member of Kiwanis. Have done a number of things through the years.



Career / Post High School Education

Career: University Administrator, Dir. of International Services, Mississippi State University
 It is a never-ending source of wonder to me that every month, two checks go into the bank—pension and Social Security!! Life is good in retirement!!

I “worked my way up in education—starting with teaching 5th grade in CA, and then teaching at MHS (World History & Economics). At Purdue, I taught Western Civilization as a grad assistant. Ultimately, I taught Landscape Arch. Hist. at TX Tech U. I went into administration after we went to MS and spent the remainder of my career in International Educ. as the Sponsored Student Spec. and then Dir., Int’l Services Office. Working with international students was a joy and an emotionally satisfying job, because you knew you made a difference for many lives. I loved it down to the last day when I retired, and then I bid it goodbye with no regrets, though I am still in contact with some of the students.

Post H.S. Education: Kansas State University, BA; Purdue University, MA

MHS – BIOS & MEMORIES

Town Memories

I always went to summer school after finishing 9th grade—there was a wonderful home ec class at K-State that gave teachers without degrees an opportunity to student teach. We learned so much from those women in an 8 a.m.-noon class.

Then at the end of my Junior year, I took two correspondence classes (American Government and Sociology) so that I could skip on to K-State in the fall. My children had fun teasing me as the high school dropout!! I did graduate with you, though!! College chemistry was accepted and that was all I needed to have enough credits. Mr. Bishop saw me in the audience at your graduation, and had a special walk across the stage for me afterward and gave me my diploma. He really was a sweetheart!!

**Helen K. (Anderson)
ZUERCHER**

Memories
(continued)



Above Grandson Benjamin;
Right: Vacationing in
Jacksonville, FL (Behind:
Dames Point Bridge)

MHS Memories

I really liked Marion Kirkpatrick—not really High School, but 6th grade and again in Jr. High. Mr. Todd was such a favorite in Jr. High and again in High School. He was still at MHS when I taught there. He was a counselor, and then developed that awful tumor and went downhill so sadly and quickly. I really missed him the rest of the time I spent as a teacher at MHS. Would you believe Herb Bishop was still principal when I started teaching there? He was also a neighbor over the back fence.



Travel

Lived in: CA, OR, back to KS, IN, West & East TX, MS, & back to CA, which is where I went when I left K-State. Foreign Travel: **Middle East** & Mediterranean Islands, '79; **Holland, Germany, Switzerland, France & UK**, '82; **Malaysia & Singapore** for 3 months, '87 & again briefly '96; **Thailand**, '95 & again to attend a wedding in 2006; & **Canada**, '96. We have traveled fairly extensively in the U.S. in the eastern part when the children were young & more in the South & West in later years. Now our favorite place is Yosemite National Park.



Left: Home—2947 Tenaya Drive, Merced, CA

1950s Pop Culture

Favorite songs in HS: They came and went with the changing Top 40

Favorite '50s songs now: I listen to a lot of "oldies" now that there are many CD sets.

Favorite singers in HS: Probably Johnny Mathis and Nat King Cole. I still enjoy their smooth singing.

Favorite '50s singers now: No one particular singer—I enjoy a wide variety of '50s artists.

Favorite movies in HS: We went to the movies all the time as teens, and I am hard-pressed to remember very many of them or if I saw them while in high school or in college.