

NOTES FROM OUR TEACHERS

FROM FRANCES SMITH:

The Class of '50 was my favorite Class. I knew them so well and felt so close to them--they were my kids. Your Class was my last class before I assumed administrative duties.

FROM ROLLIN GRIDLEY:

I am pleased and grateful for your kind invitation to attend the Reunion of the T.H.S. Class of 1950.

I regret that it is necessary to decline the invitation due to the problems resulting from aging, largely the inability to walk and poor eyesight. I seldom get out during the evening.

It is difficult to realize that your classmates are reaching the status of "Senior Citizens" so quickly. May I congratulate all of the Class of 1950, and wish them continued good health, happiness and success.

FROM JOHN L. BARRINGER:

From a biography written for the Class of 1950 on the occasion of its 44th Reunion: "We, Frances Cassady "Cass" and I will have been married 58 years on August 26, 1994. We are both retired: Frances from First Interstate Bank, and I from TUSD. (I started with TUSD in 1939, Wakefield Jr. High. Came to THS 1942/1955. TUSD administration until retirement, 1976.) I've been involved with Tucson Badger Foundation since 1982, which amounts to being a full-time job.

"Favorite memories are of maturing in the best possible supportive, cooperative environment, which included great respect and assistance from family, parents and students, professional colleagues, personal friends and thousands of wonderful youngsters past and current who love the community and keep pushing for the very best for Tucson High School--GO BADGERS!"

FROM FLORENCE REYNOLDS:

I appreciate being invited to write a brief statement for this publication of the Tucson High School 1950 Reunion Committee. Forty-four years are many years to remember, but to do so is a pleasure when I think of many students, classes, activities that were a part of my years at THS.

As I thought about this writing assignment given me by Barbara Burrows Crawford and Barbara Baldwin Salyer, I thought of a few facts which might be of interest to us.

The decade beginning in 1950 was the period of greatest growth in the Tucson Unified School District. Three new high schools, four junior high schools and twenty-three elementary schools were built. Beginning in 1947 when you were THS students, several new courses were added. One teacher in each junior high school and six high school teachers were released for one-half time counseling duties--a beginning of the Guidance and Counseling program in the secondary schools.

It was in 1950 that former superintendent, Robert D. Morrow, began his earnest work with the Arizona Legislature to repeal the school segregation law. Subsequently, in 1951 this law was repealed for grades 1-8, prior to the U.S. Supreme Court's decision ending segregation in the nation's schools. Tucson High School carries the proud tradition of never having been segregated on the basis of race but has been open to all the young people in the community.

I also looked through several yearbooks to see many faces of students, faculty and staff and to see the activities which were going on in these years. In addition to the academic classes being held, I counted 45 clubs and activities open to students and sponsored by faculty members. These groups appealed to a wide variety of interests, social, academic, athletic and vocational. Perhaps you were more fortunate than students are today, where administrators and faculty have to deal with budgetary problems which restrict development of activity programs.

Like you, I have warm memories of my years at Tucson High School and great pride in its long history since 1924.

Best wishes to all of you who have been living, working, raising families, contributing to your community in many ways. Enjoy the reunion of the Class of 1950!