

## **Dwayne Ballard – June 2014 to Sept 2019 (Update)**

The last five years have been busy, but more relaxing than the first 12 years of retirement. My prostate cancer returned in the summer of 2014. Since I didn't have a prostate to remove this time, the treatment of choice was 8 weeks (Monday thru Friday) of radiation treatments. Being heavily involved in the 50<sup>th</sup> reunion planning helped me keep my mind on positive events. So far all of our prayers have been answered and I have been cancer free since then. This episode was the driving force behind me gradually removing myself, throughout 2015, from the Estes Park Library and Glen Haven Volunteer Fire Department non-profit Boards. After being set free of my "non-paying" jobs, in 2016 Georgia and I enjoyed two major events. We took the Rick Steve's "Best of France" tour in September and then celebrated our 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary with our children and grandchildren with an upper Michigan Christmas holiday. We continued celebrating our 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary throughout 2017 beginning in January with a 6 week trip to Australia and New Zealand, followed by a two week Rick Steve's tour of Eastern Europe in September. When we weren't traveling and making new friends, we began looking around the country for 55+ communities that would get us out of isolated mountain living and back into civilization - with better health care and closer neighbors. In early 2018 we decided to build a house in the Anthem Ranch 55+ community in Broomfield, CO. We sold our Glen Haven house in June and moved to an apartment in Berthoud until our new house was completed in late September. For those of you who have moved into a new house, you pretty much know what we have been doing during 2019. We did take time off in June for a visit to Michigan to celebrate two high school graduations (grandsons #2 and #3) and the Eagle Scout Court of Honor for grandsons #1 and #2. The following month we were able to join our two children and their spouses for a 12 day cruise from Rome to Barcelona. (The six grandchildren were not happy they weren't invited!) It was ever so welcome to spend so much time with "our kids". We probably hadn't spent that much continuous quality time together since before they were in high school.

All in well with our family. We are very proud of our children and grandchildren!

Our son and family moved back to Milford, Michigan from Pennsylvania. Brian is still working for Merck Pharmaceuticals. His wife Kristine is an elementary school teacher. Their oldest son just graduated with honors, was a 4 year letterman in track and cross country and is now attending Michigan State University (Dad's and Mom's alma mater). Number two son is a junior in high school, has lettered in Lacrosse and runs cross country. Their daughter is in 8<sup>th</sup> grade and is a very good volleyball player.

Our daughter and husband still live in Troy, MI. Kristin is now the editor of two trade magazines. Her husband Bill is a middle school teacher, athletic director, assistant principal and a volunteer fireman. Their oldest son, after completing his freshman year at BYU, is currently in his second year of his Mormon mission. He is in Ukraine and is now fluent in Russian. Their second son just graduated with high honors, was a 3 year letterman in football and basketball and will be playing Division III football this fall for Southern Virginia University on an academic scholarship. Their daughter is a freshman in high school and is already challenging her older brother's athletic and academic accomplishments. She made the JV girls volleyball team as a freshman. It should not go untold - but I'm positive all the grandchildren's athletic skills were passed down from their grandfather, and all of their academic skills were inherited from their grandmother!

Am looking forward to a fun 55<sup>th</sup> class reunion!!

## **Dwayne Ballard – June 1964 - June 2014**

Accounting for the 50 years since high school graduation is relatively straight forward: 4 ½ years at Colorado State University, 33 years working in the computer industry and 12 ½ years retired!

While at CSU, I married Georgia Schadegg (LHS Class of '65). We will celebrate our 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary in December of 2016. During our life together we have had the pleasure of moving a number of times to a variety of interesting places. Beginning in Ft. Collins (3 years) we moved to Denver (2 years), then to Las Vegas, NV (3 years), then to Tucson, AZ (1 year), back to Littleton, CO (5 years), then to Hong Kong (4 years), then to Troy, MI (6 years), to Lansdale, PA (12 years) and finally to Glen Haven, Colorado (12 years). We have been very blessed and remain in contact with the many friends we have made in each of these cities.

My 33 years in the computer field were with two companies, three years with RCA, followed by 30 years with Burroughs / Unisys Corporation. I worked in a variety of functions including software technical support, project management, program management and marketing. All of these activities were connected with the company's mainframe computer product line.

After graduating from CSU, Georgia was a stay at home mom until the kids were in school. While living in Las Vegas, she earned a teaching certificate and was a Junior High English teacher in Colorado, Hong Kong and Michigan. While living in Michigan, she earned a Masters of Library Science Degree and became a middle school librarian in Michigan and Pennsylvania. After we returned to Colorado in 2001, she worked part time for the Great Plains Library District in Greeley until she retired in 2010,

We have two grown children and six grandchildren. Our daughter Kristin graduated from Notre Dame University and currently lives in Michigan. She works for Business News Publishing as a magazine editor. Her husband, Bill Johansson, is an elementary physical education teacher and high school track coach. They have 2 sons, Will and Matthew and a daughter Tessa. Our son Brian graduated from Michigan State University and now resides in Pennsylvania, only about 30 minutes from where we lived while living there. He works for Merck Pharmaceuticals. His wife Kristine is a former 3<sup>rd</sup> grade teacher. They also have 2 sons, Grant, and Luke and a daughter, Ellie.

After surviving Prostate Cancer in 2001, I had the opportunity to retire early and did so at the end of the year. My retirement years have been extremely active. We have been very fortunate and have traveled quite a bit both domestically and internationally. Between business travel and retirement travel I have visited 42 of the 50 states, and 37 countries. Our most recent escapades took us to Machu Picchu in Peru and The Galapagos Islands off the coast of Ecuador in early 2013. I have spent a great deal of time volunteering for non-profits. After handling all accounting and registration duties for the Estes Park Relay for Life for 7 years, I decided to try something different. I am currently on the Board of Directors for the Estes Valley Library Foundation and the Glen

Haven Area Volunteer Fire Department. I also have had the pleasure of chairing the Class of '64 reunion committee for the 45th and 50th reunions. September 12<sup>th</sup> has become my unlucky date. On September 12<sup>th</sup> 2012, my 89 year old mother past away. On September 12<sup>th</sup> 2013 we were caught up in the Colorado floods. We were very fortunate we had no properly damage, but were displaced for 4 months. No road to the house, no electricity when we finally got a road, and no telephone/internet once we finally got electricity. The Glen Haven area is gradually getting better, but it will be another year before County Road 43, the road in front of our house, is fully repaired. Living on a dirt road leaves a bit to be desired.

### **A Loveland memory from 1950/60 era!**

My memories of Loveland began early in life. I was born in a doctor's office above Draper Drug in downtown Loveland. We lived across the street from the original Garfield grade school at 7<sup>th</sup> and Grant. I remember walking across the street to kindergarten and 1<sup>st</sup> grade, then having to walk all the way down the railroad tracks to the new Garfield school at 8<sup>th</sup> and Colorado for the rest of my elementary school years. Garfield School ruled the track and field events each spring during the late 50's. I remember the first day of school during 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grades taking note of who was in each class to determine which class would have the better track team 8 months later. Becoming a patrol boy and wearing that patrol belt during 6<sup>th</sup> grade was one of early life's greatest rewards. I also remember taking part in the Minute dance program. I haven't been able to dance since. My Junior High memories are a blur. I do remember undefeated football teams, girls starting to grow boobs and some kid driving to school in the 8<sup>th</sup> grade because he just turned 16. High School was dominated by sports, studying, and dating, pretty much in that order. Being selected a Rag Day clown, along with Jerry Starck, falls into the greatest rewards category. I can't remember if we were funny, but we had a great time. I also remember buying 4 gallons of gas for a dollar (4 guys chipping in a quarter a piece) and then spending the rest of a summer evening cruising between the two A&W root beer stands. Life was simple, life was good!!