

Bushy Tales

Dedicated to all who attended London Central High School
at Bushy Park, London England from
1952 to 1962



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Visit the Bushy Park Website at <http://www.bushypark.org/>

CLASS REPRESENTATIVES



1953 – Mariann (Walton)
McCornack
mgm2010@comcast.net



1954 – Betsy (Neff) Cote
betsycote@Atlanticbb.net

1955 – Volunteer Requested



1956 – Edie (Williams) Wingate
WingW@aol.com



1957 – William Douglas
rwmdouglas@gmail.com



1958 – Pat (Terpening) Owen
nemoamasa@sbcglobal.net



1959 – John "Mike" Hall
MGHall446@gmail.com



1960 – Ren Briggs
rpbjr@frontiernet.net



1961 – Betsy (Schley) Slepetz
bslepetz@comcast.net



1962 – Dona (Hale) Ritchie
Dona.Ritchie@att.net

A little reminder to all –if/when you change your email address, please let Pat Terpening (58) Owen nemoamasa@sbcglobal.net or me know, if you want to continue to receive the newsletter. Too many times we only find out when you send us an email saying you haven't received the newsletter in few months. Thanks, guys.



**Classmates Who
Have Transferred to
the Eternal Duty
Station**



Larry Vaughn Curtis (58)
January 8, 1940 – March 11, 2011



Larry Vaughn Curtis, loving husband, father and grandfather, passed away Friday, March 11, 2011, of heart complications at a Dallas medical center. Funeral: March 18, at The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 5001 Altamesa Blvd., Fort Worth, TX.

Larry was born Jan. 8, 1940, in Denver, CO. He served in the United States Air Force from 1961 to 1973 and retired as a captain. He served his country honorably during the Vietnam War. Larry continued to work in the private sector at Lockheed Martin, as an aeronautical engineer and retired in 2002. He was a faithful member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Larry had many callings, and his favorites were when he taught in primary.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Lyndon and Virginia Curtis; mother-in-law, Betty Fox; and grandson, Jacob Curtis Reed. Survivors: Larry is survived by his loving, gracious wife of 49 years, Betty Curtis; six children, Larry Curtis and wife, Amy, Elizabeth Reed and husband, Todd, Rachel Morgan and husband, Michael, Jeffrey Curtis and wife, Gail, Timothy Curtis and wife, Allison, and Matthew Curtis and wife, Katrina; sister, Carol Lynch; sister-in-law, Pat Wellensiek and husband, Howard; brother-in-law, Bob Fox and wife, Pam; five nephews; one niece; three great-nephews; one great-niece; 30 grandchildren, Beth and husband, Dylan, Chrissy and husband, Brandon, Chloe, Zach and wife, Kelsey, Nick, Justin and wife, Lindsey, Dylan, Anna, Nathan, Ashley, Katy, Sarah, Noah, Jacob, Hannah, Tyson, Jamie, Rebecca, Aaron, McKinsey, Spencer, Emily, Gavin, Ethan, Andrew, David and Amanda; and five great-grandchildren, Jared, Summer, Kaylee, Elise and Logan. He was a foster father to 43 children. Larry is a blessing to all whose lives he touched.

Published by Star-Telegram on Mar. 16, 2011.

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Charles (Chuck) Nole (62)
December 20, 1944 - April 3, 2021



Roseburg, Oregon - Charles Jordan Nole (Chuck), passed away on April 3rd, 2021, at his home in Roseburg, OR, at the age of 76. He was a career Army officer who served 3 tours of duty as a helicopter pilot during the Viet Nam war. He was highly decorated with the Distinguished Flying Cross; the Bronze Star with V device for valor; 72 Air Medals, two of which were given with the V device for valor; and the Army Commendation Medal with the V device for valor. He also received the Meritorious Service Medal; 2 Bronze Stars for meritorious service in combat operations; 2 Army Commendation Medals; the Army Achievement Medal; and the Humanitarian Service Medal.

He was stationed at Tacoma's Camp Murray after the close of the Viet Nam war where he participated in numerous search and rescue operations, was a flight instructor and safety officer, and he led Jimmy Carter and Marine One to view the destruction wrought by the eruption of Mt. St. Helens in 1980. He was a stunt pilot in the movie "Blue Thunder" and flew in several air shows demonstrating the tactics and maneuverability of the Cobra gunship. When he retired from the Army and Washington Air National Guard after 20 years of service, he had accumulated the most flying hours of any helicopter pilot in the Army.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Kim McCallister, his brother, Tim Nole, his sister Kathy, and his parents Col. Jack D. Nole and Celeste Charleton Nole.

He is survived by his 3 daughters, Joelle Nole, Suzy Schwartz and Tina Nole, his sister Xan N. Porter, her husband Don, who was like a brother to Chuck, and his first wife and dear friend, Laura Nole. His beloved dog, Tarza will live out her days on the Umpqua River with family friends, Larry and Becky Nieme.

He was buried at the Tahoma National Cemetery on June 11th with full military honors.

Chuck was an animal lover and made a monthly gift to the Oregon Humane Society. Donations in lieu of flowers can be made online here: <https://www.oregonhumane.org/donate/memorial-celebration-gifts/>

or mailed to:

Oregon Humane Society
1067 NE Columbia Blvd
Portland, OR 97211

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Lorna F. Wisler (56) Golden

May 9, 1938 – September 17, 2006

Carolina Shores, NC - Lorna Faye Golden, 68, of Sand Dollar Court, died September 17, 2006, in the Grand Strand Regional Medical Center.

Mrs. Golden was born in Gettysburg, Pa. on May 9, 1938, a daughter of the late Raymond and Delores Beale Wisler. She was a member of the Calabash Elks Ladies Auxiliary, Carolina Shores Cooks and Garden Club, and the Red Hat Society. She was an avid Mah Jong player and instructor.

She is survived by her husband, John L. Golden of Carolina Shores, N.C. and a brother, Raymond Wisler and wife, Carol, of Las Vegas, Nev.

In lieu of flowers memorials may be directed to the American Diabetes Association, 2418 Blue Ridge Road, Suite 206, Raleigh, NC 27607.

A memorial service will be announced at a later date.

Sign a guest book at MyrtleBeachOnline.com.

Brunswick Funeral Service & Crematory, Shallotte, N.C. is serving the family.
Published by The Sun News on Sep. 19, 2006.

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Alice Gertrude Jackson (55) Wilson

November 8, 1936 – December 5, 2015

A memorial service to celebrate the life of Alice G. Wilson was held at the chapel in Altus Cemetery July 1, 2017. Alice G. Wilson passed away Dec. 5, 2015.

She was born Nov. 8, 1936, in Johnston City, Illinois to Clarence F. Jackson and Maddline Webb. Alice married Edward Wilson while living abroad in England.

She was preceded in death by her parents and her husband.

She was the mother of four girls and one boy, grandmother of 14 and great-grandmother.

She will be forever loved and missed by many.

Published in Altus Times from Jun. 28 to Jun. 29, 2017.

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Note: Although the following three obituaries aren't current, Pat submits them as she finds them.

William Donald Nading, II (57) is deceased.

I found the information in his mother's obituary but can't find an obituary for William. He died sometime before 2006 which is when his mother, Virginia M. Nading passed away.

Pat Owen

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Albert E. LaGrille, IV (61) – deceased –

Don't know when but read it in his wife's obituary.

Pat Terpening (58) Owen

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Linda Fulton (59) Julian passed away on February 4, 2022, in Florida.

I got the information from Connie Haave (58) Saunders who got it from Barbara Board (59) Hamilton. Couldn't find an obit anywhere.

Pat Terpening (58) Owen

Memories of Bushy Park

Robert Harrold (60) maintains a Bushy Park website at BushyPark.org. Among the things you can see at this website is a “Guestbook”, in which many website visitors have left comments. There are many entries, dating back to April 2007. Here is a direct link: [Bushy Park Guest Book](#)



SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

Bob Harrold (60) has been operating the BushyPark.org website for several years. It was originally created by Wanda DeVary (60). Bob is now considering how the website might continue when he is unable to do so, at some point in the future. He is in good health today, but as we all know this can change at any time.

Bob has written to me to ask if anyone in our readers group might have an interest and capability to do so. Bob is willing to provide to said person(s) copies of the website contents that can be practiced with offline to get the hang of how it operates.

The goal is to maintain and operate this website in the same manner and format as it has been, free of any advertising, political dialogue, etc. It is completely independent of the “Bushy Tales” newsletter, but it addresses the same audience, classes 1953 -1962.

Some details from Bob of what and how he now does it:

I’m thinking that if I were to “not be around”, so to speak, as happened with previous folks who kept up the web pages ... do you think we should have a backup person to manage the pages (in case I drop over ...hopefully, none too soon.)?

I pay for the domain name of BushyPark.org via Network Solutions domain registry service. I pay it in 5-year increments, in advance.

Also, the web pages are stored on, and the web site fed from, a server in my house. It is backed up and remotely maintained by a friend, George Seymour. He and I are registered with Network Solutions to manage the domain name. The entire web site could, at some point, be copied over files wise, and be available to someone as a restorable backup onto another physical server somewhere. I think Google has reasonable rates to host entire domain websites, if someone were to take over keeping the web site alive, were I out of the picture ...so to speak. (yuck!)

It’s something that I never imagined I’d be thinking seriously about; however, we’re not spring chickens anymore.

At the very least, a couple of other of us RAF Bushy Park folks should have a copy (which I can put on to a memory stick) plus copy to others, the phone numbers to call to as to whomever is the contact point for the web site domain registration (bushypark.org), which is myself Robert Harrold and a server tech friend of mine, George Seymour (currently living in California.)

I can make a complete backup of the website, a snapshot at any given time, and send it for safe keeping, access to, practice with, etc., as some of us agree to do. It is not a rush, by any means ...I HOPE!

Anyone who is interested in doing this, please contact me, Bob Harrold, at my email address rharrold@harrold.org

Bob Harrold (60)

From: Norman Alm (61)



The Womanless Wedding

Does anyone else remember The Womanless Wedding? I can't recall if this was a regular event or just happened once. It may have been connected with Sadie Hawkins Day Dance that happened every year (where the girls would ask the boys to the dance). One of the English teachers directed the Wedding. May have been Mr Law. The performance I remember would have been in '58 or '59. It took place in the Base Theatre. An all-boy cast staged a spoof over-the-top wedding ceremony. The bride, in a flowing white gown and net veil, wearing big brown boots, was broad shouldered and about 6'2". The groom came up to the bride's elbow. The entourage paraded down the aisle, and there was a full ceremony, followed by speeches and performances. I played the bride's best friend, Madge, wearing a gaudy floral print dress. I sang 'Silver Threads Among the Gold' in a trembling falsetto voice (can still do it).

Leaving home for school that day, on an impulse, I pulled out a plastic rose from a vase on a table by the front door. Reckoned this would make a good addition to the costume. It had a very long stem, so it sat very securely after being pushed down the top of the dress. And as a bonus, as I drew it out, at the close of the song to lay it on my cheek, it just kept coming and coming. That got a bigger laugh than my singing!

Norman Alm (61)

###



From: James Sherry (61)

I spent only one year at Bushy Park, and that as a freshman (9th grade) in 1957-58, but it was one of the most memorable years of my youth. In truth, what made it memorable wasn't Bushy Park as much as it was the surroundings my family lived in. As a dayhop student I never really felt a part of the school's social life; good thing life was interesting outside of the school experience.

We had moved from Northolt, our lease on a small, dilapidated manor house having expired. While there my dad, an assistant Army attaché at the US embassy at Grovenor Square, had built a small outboard runabout on weekends and evenings. He had it ready for the water in May of '57 and had found a house to rent for our remaining year in England in Teddington on a dead-end canal off the Thames. Perfect setting for his new boat, and luckily for me close by Bushy Park.

The canal was at the "foot of the garden," as it was termed among the residents of Broom Water West. We had room for the runabout, a rowboat, longer and heavier (and decades older) than the runabout, and a tiny tub my dad named the Imp, built from scraps left over from his boat. They were parallel-parked, bow to stern, along a concrete landing on the bank of the canal. Here's an overhead from [Google Maps](#); it doesn't appear to have changed much over the past 65 years, although in those days there were lots more boats along the canal. Our house was the fourth from the end of the canal.

The rowboat was mine. We had bought it from a neighbor, along with a couple of long, curved oars. My dad and I spruced up the boat just enough to make it usable, and I spent more time in that boat out on the river than I did in the house that year. Except maybe in the dead and dark of winter. Can you imagine nowadays, with hovering parents, playdates, and critics on social media, being allowed unsupervised out on the mighty Thames in an ancient craft of dubious provenance? It was a year of early teen ecstasy.

The only downside was that there was no time for after-school activities of the kind that would have resulted in memories of Bushy Park and Central High School.

If you have questions or comments, I can be reached at jimamerican@yahoo.com.

Jim Sherry
Winchester, VA

###

From: Pat Owen (58)

The question was asked in the February 2022 issue: *Did you pass through the Point as was your ambition?*

Pat Terpening (58) Owen



From: Bob Rumph (56)

Thanks for asking, Pat. Just finished the February 2022 Edition with some really interesting dialogue about Central High School. Great effort to all school yearly participants in the program.

Despite my folks being assigned in England and having attended four different HS during my Dad's tours, the stint at Bushy Park was never forgotten as a highlight of my education. My father was 1937 WooPoo grad and kept me "interested" and even had me go to Germany for "entrance exams" where I only complied to drink a pop-top bottle of good local beer. I keep up with all the subsequent newsletter into that you all have mastered over the timeframe, with tidbits of memory (like burning down the dorm w/C-4) and other gross activities. You folks have done a great service to us fellowship members of the students, staff, and faculty (plus bus driver transport to and fro from everywhere), to attend the downtown London military school.

Took a couple years to get the college finalized appointment approved -- Seems like John Dimitrioff or Hal Dreibelbis were deep thinking about West Point also during senior year (?) -- notwithstanding, must admit I was preoccupied with neatsy girlfriend Dawnna Andreasen during that HS period prior to my USA return.

Did USMA 1958-1962 and graduated, spent 30 years in Army Air Defense (Nuclear Programs), including overseas RVN (1st Cav Div), Germany (Sgt Missile System), & Korea (71st ADA, I Corps Gp), and also as West Point instructor (spent 11 years overall as a dependent, cadet, and TAC officer) retired as Colonel ('06), operating my established firm RBC Enterprises, Inc. Charleston, SC in a permanent home-base location for subsequent retirement, as a business owner "temporary employment agency" until finally closing same on Dec 2021 due to pandemic issues. Now I am fully "Re-tired" or is it just TIRED.

My very best to all concerned with this nostalgic enterprise.

Second response:

Of course, I do NOT mind your sharing any and all of the response to your question -- and or editing out anything that Bill thinks that should not be included. My bio history is on record in the Assembly magazine, and unfortunately my father died before I was accepted at the academy much to my chagrin with his expressions of desires were constant at that time.

Maybe the attack on the dorm rooms of cloistered clerical staff with C-4 and/or M80 firecrackers might be too much (as I have the fire investigation paper on file), but you know what it was like with us at that age, fighting the Teddy Boys in the area and other crazy stuff in the school vicinity -- plus what happened in the bomb shelters on post with "couples in love." Congrats on your

pursuing continuation of Bushy Notes, as it brings back vivid memories of making sure that attendance in a Brit HS equivalent a major NoNo (including academic issued clothing wear). Getting punishment for smoking on the bus during a two-hour ride thru Ruislip is now fully complete after doing it for 50 years. Not having a car and being confined by certain passport restrictions wore off well over time. We did some stupid things -- but we had some GREAT teachers, and the honor society attendance was our gain in educational opportunities.

Do appreciate your following thru with whomever classmate posed the initial question out of the blue.

Bob Rumph

Third response:

Thanks again for your "closing this loop for me" with the current Bushy Park folk edition of Central High School (The Londoner) for those who posed the original question.

Please pass on for Bill if he chooses to include with my comments to you all regarding previous message. I will furnish recorded copies of most of our correspondence to Edie Wingate (Class of 1956 scribe) for info unless you have already done so.

Bob Rumph



Bob Rumph surrounded by his two daughters. Wife (Paige) next to the two granddaughters attending SC educational college(s) dated year 2015

###



From: Carol Garside (62) Brooks

My name at the time was Carol Garside. I spent my 8th and 9th grade years at Sculthorpe AFB where my stepdad was stationed, and was a Sophomore at Bushy Park 1959-1960. We lived off base in Hunstanton (a pretty, little beach town) not far from Sandringham Estate. Staff cars from the base would pick us up on Sunday and the coach to Bushy Park would be waiting at the base and would deliver us to school in style - about a three-hour drive. I'm attaching a photo of us waiting to load the bus. I'm the one all in white with the crazy glasses. To my left is Carroll Peche, my right is her sister Fran and far right

is Fidelia Cisneros. The sisters and I were roommates. Fidelia and I were good friends. We were often late coming back home on Friday, and I can remember the staff car driver trying to find his way through the "pea soup" fog at times.

I have to admit to being nervous at first as this was my first overseas tour of duty and I had never lived away from home. We came to England from Amarillo, Texas where my Mom and Stepdad were married and had only lived there a few years as mother and I had immigrated to the U.S. from Scotland in 1951 when I was eight years old. So - I was back across the pond - but it was a wonderful time in my life as these life-long military "brats" took me under their wing and made me feel welcome. I only spent one year at Bushy Park, but it was a life-changing event for me.

It was impressive how these kids from all different places, with parents from different branches of the service and government jobs, came together quickly to make friends, enjoy where they were at that time and moved on just as quickly. I have life-long friends from my time at Bushy Park and later at Lakenheath for my Junior year when it opened. It is a shared experience difficult to explain to anyone who grew up strictly in the U.S. There were very few cliques, and you never knew if someone's Dad was an NCO or the base commander - it just didn't seem to matter.

My biggest take-away was adaptability and self-reliance. It has served me well in life. I wouldn't trade that experience for most anything that has come my way since then.

Carol Garside (62) Brooks



Letters to the Editor

From: Pat Terpening (58) Owen

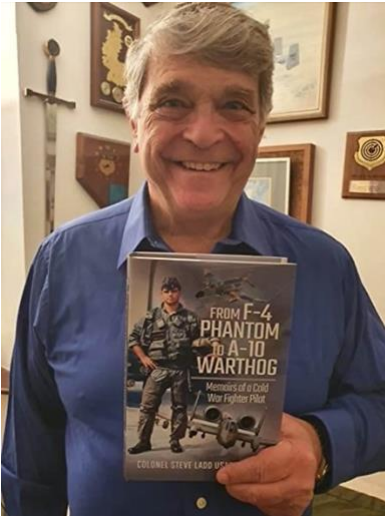
Bill - Found the below article on the internet and contacted Steve Ladd. He said he'd be honored if we could use it in a future newsletter. Found it fascinating. He's class of 1962.

Pat Terpening (58) Owen



About Steven K Ladd (62)

Steve was born in Lansing Michigan in 1945, the eldest son of a US Army Air Corps B-24 Liberator navigator recently returned from World War II in the Pacific and the daughter of a prominent Michigan dairy farmer. As an Air Force 'Brat' he was destined to lead a nomadic lifestyle: he attended four different high schools, in Michigan, Germany, and England (x2) before graduating from a fifth in Annandale, Virginia in 1962.



He studied Business Administration at the University of South Carolina graduating with a Bachelor of Science degree in Marketing in 1967. As a participating student in the University's Reserve Officer Training Corps, he was also commissioned as an Air Force second lieutenant at graduation. At this point, business administration was left behind and Lt. Ladd was selected to attend USAF Undergraduate Pilot Training, a transition that was to lead him through a 28-year career, as outlined in his first book, 'From F-4 Phantom to A-10 Warthog'. The reader can follow this evolution in the book and by clicking the 'Patches' tab in this webpage.

During this lifelong journey, there were many non-aviation milestones along with the career progression. In Madrid, in 1971, he met his bride-to-be, Elaine Fisher. They were married in England in 1973. While serving in the NATO Staff at RAF Rheindahlen,

Germany, then Lt.Col. Ladd earned a Master's Degree in Aeronautical Science on a two year, alternate weekend course at Embry Riddle Aeronautical University's overseas campus at Soesterburg Air Base, the Netherlands.

Steve's Air Force career took him to the fabled 'four corners of the globe', from the USA to Southeast Asia, Europe, the Middle East, and in some cases, back again. His book is a fascinating chronicle of these travels.

Upon retirement from the USAF in 1994, Steve and his wife settled in the UK, first in East Anglia, then in Bristol.

He remained closely linked with aviation, inspecting aerodromes for the UK Civil Aviation Authority, then as Operations Director for the regional airport in Wales' capitol city, Cardiff.

He then joined TBI, an Airport Owner and operator as Risk, Compliance, and Environmental Manager dealing with these programs at company airports in the US, UK, Sweden, Bolivia, Canada, and Costa Rica.

He re-established his ties with military aviation, when he joined Ascent Flight Training Ltd in Bristol, an organization created to provide a United Kingdom Military Flying Training System (UKMFTS) for all three of the UK's Armed Forces. Steve was selected as Fast Jet Curriculum Development Lead, managing a team of course development specialists in generating a comprehensive fast jet training package for RAF and Royal Navy components.

In addition to these 'day jobs,' Steve has remained active in academia as an adjunct Professor in Aviation Management for his alma mater, Embry Riddle Aeronautical University.

Now fully retired (excepting his recent authorship of 'Phantom to Warthog'), Steve and his wife of 47 years now live in Bristol, England.

Hi Pat,

Happy to help. If classmates are interested in the book they can find and purchase it here:

<https://phantomtowardhog.com/the-book/> There's some pretty interesting stuff on the website-- click the 'Home' tab and check it out.

Here's an example from my Blog: Bushy Park classmates (and any other Brats) will enjoy it:
[Brat Chat](#)

We've come up with a way to send free signature plates to those who order books from any source and presto! You have a signed copy. Anyone wanting a signature can contact me through the website above and I'll take care of it.

Let me know if there's anything else I can provide.

Best,
Steve Ladd (62)

--FINIS--