

Ribault Senior High School
Jacksonville, Florida

Class of 1967



April 2021, No. 2

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

WELL, here we are starting the second quarter of 2021. A new administration is in office, Covid vaccinations are becoming more available, spring has sprung and, most importantly, the Masters (minus one Tiger) will be in another week with limited spectators.

March 29 was Vietnam War Veterans Day. We lost three classmates in that war and, although March 29 was a couple of days ago, let us still take a moment to pay tribute to our KIA Vietnam soldiers McKinley Rice (USMC), Wayne Roberts (US Army) and Joseph “Freddie” Smith (branch UNK). In addition, let us remember the following deceased classmates who were also Vietnam war veterans: Ken Davies (US Army), Bobby McLean (USMC), Jack Weatherly (USMC), Ron Kozieracki (branch UNK), Dwight Loadholtes (US Air Force), Michael Adams (USMC), Frankie Cribbs (US Army), Kerry Page (US Navy) and Glenn Daniels (US Navy). Thank you, Pam McCombs O’Neal, for suggesting this be included in our newsletter.

Moving forward, it would be an honor to list all our living classmates who served in the armed services. Please email Alice Bartlett Mabry at abmabry49@gmail.com with your name and branch of service. Buddy Campbell, we know you are one proud living Vietnam veteran and rightfully so.

In response to a request for information on certain topics, here is what has been received:

CAREER/RETIREMENT

Gary Coulliette retired from CSXT on April 20, 2009 after 40 years. The favorite part of his career was as a Senior Internal Auditor riding in the locomotive cab with train crews all over the CSX system. After leaving CSXT, Gary worked as a part time ranger, and later as a volunteer ranger, at the GTM Reserve in St. Augustine. Gary returned to his guitar at age 50 and enjoyed playing many gigs for 20 years until Covid brought things to a screeching halt. Gary received his BA from JU in 1996 and his MBA from California Coast University in 1999. Gary wishes Miss Bates, his 6th grade teacher, had lived long enough to know he finally did make something of himself.

Alice Bartlett Mabry retired on March 6, 2020 after 51 years of working in law firms, first as a legal secretary for 13 years and then as a paralegal for the remaining 38 years.

Alice loved her career and could write a book on what really goes on in law offices that would make *Ally McBeal*, *Suits*, *The Good Wife* and *The Practice*, to name a few, look boring.

David Byrd always promised himself that he would paint a few pictures once he really retired. Here are a few that he said he would like to share with his friends that he grew up with:





GOOD READS

Killing Crazy Horse by Bill O'Reilly—Recommended by Gary Coulliette.

The Nightingale by Kristin Hannah and *Where the Crawdads Sing* by Delia Owens—Recommended by Alice Bartlett Mabry.

Man's Search for Meaning and *Yes to Life—In Spite of Everything* both by Viktor E. Frankl—Recommended by Pam McCombs O'Neal. Unlike most books written about concentration camps during WWII, Pam says these are not only about the horrific conditions that existed but rather focus more on the people confined and how they managed to cope with the types of adversity they faced every day. Occasionally, there are even ironic touches of humor.

PRAYERS

For the families and loved one of the classmates we have lost most recently: Kitty Hubbard, Merle Courson Hurst, Donald Kelley, Mary Shealey Thomas, William “Bill” Swearingen, Sanford “Sandy” Swearingen and Jerry Hall. Their names have been added to the “In Memory” page on our website. www.ribault67.homestead.com.

Edwina Millican Richards lost her husband, Clint, right before Christmas on December 16. Their daughter, Lee Richards Abell, has been a tremendous help to Edwina during this difficult time, as well as her close friends Janet (Griffin) and Duane Bradley. Edwina’s email address is edwinapottery@gmail.com.

Gerald “Jerry” Pember asked for our prayers in his continuing recovery from many serious health issues since 2017. He is thankful that he and his “gracious & loving wife of 46 years as of 3.25.2021” (Happy Anniversary!) have received their covid vaccines. Jerry said he would love to hear from some folks and that he and his wife still live in Jacksonville across from the zoo. Jerry’s email address is gfgap@att.net.

Gary Coulliette’s beautiful wife, Gwen, is now in a nursing home as she declines with Alzheimer’s. Gary took such wonderful, loving care of Gwen for so many years at home and he now visits her four times a week in the nursing home. Some wonderful news for the Coulliettes was they were blessed with a miracle baby granddaughter, Quinn Rose, in June 2020. Gary’s 43-year-old daughter, mother of Quinn Rose, lost a daughter in a tragic car accident many years ago so this was truly a blessing on every level. They would love to have your prayers. Gary’s email address is gcoulliette3@gmail.com.

Diane Stalvey Neuman recently fractured a bone in her right foot and has been unable to drive. Her husband had bypass surgery that caused left lung issues. She asks that we please keep them in our prayers. Diane’s email address is dinishoo4@aol.com.

Please visit our website at www.ribault67.homestead.com to find other classmates’ email addresses at Classmate Information>Email Addresses. Reconnecting can be great fun.

I warned you if you did not send me anything for our newsletter, I was going to inundate you with pictures/videos of my Granddaughter Mabry. Watch this!

To watch video, click on “Enable Editing.”



Do You Like Mom's
Cooking.MP4