

Ribault Senior High School
Jacksonville, Florida

Class of 1967



January 2022, No. 6

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

“Should auld acquaintance be forgot, and never brought to mind? Should auld acquaintance be forgot, and days of auld lang syne? For auld lang syne, my dear, for auld lang syne. We'll tak a cup o'kindness yet, for days of auld lang syne.” [Songwriters: Theodore Shapiro/Traditional]

May this be a Happy and **Healthy** New Year for all of the Ribault Class of 1967! We certainly could use a cup of kindness for sure.

55th REUNION UPDATE REPORT FROM SHARON LANE

Your reunion committee is working to tie down the location for our reunion scheduled in October 2022. We have considered the feedback from everyone and, basically, the majority of folks wanted a three-day event, near the beach and in the Jacksonville area. Taking this into account, we have located a hotel in Fernandina Beach that is relatively new. Nice facility and just across from the beach. Thanks to Debbie Gandy McBride for doing the research for us on this location.

Committee members will do a site visit in mid-January to see the facility and feel comfortable with the offer of services. If we agree with this, we will then sign the contract and move forward from there. Hope you are making plans now to spend this event with old and dear friends as we meet to celebrate the 55th anniversary of our graduation. More to come later.

guslane35@gmail.com

CLASS FACEBOOK PAGE

We currently have two Facebook pages. We are in the process of combining the two with the remaining one to be located at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/336958183371434>. For the most current information between newsletters, please go to our Facebook page referenced above. By all means, post as well. It is the best way to keep us all informed.

LARRY SIMPSON, OUR CLASSMATE AND ONE OF THE FAMED PROSECUTORS OF TED BUNDY

Part III of III

With his law school training, Bundy decided to represent himself during many of the pretrial proceedings. He also cross-examined one of the witnesses at trial. He assumed the role of a lawyer, spoke legalese, and acted professionally and competently. He filed his own pretrial motions and took depositions. He had a sense of humor and filed a motion entitled a “Motion for a Change of Menu,” arguing the jail was serving him grilled cheese sandwiches every day and he needed some variety in his diet. I spent about four months with Bundy while he took depositions from the State witnesses. I would take the witness to the jail so Bundy could question them to find out what they knew about the case. The depositions were held in a secure room at the jail with jail personnel present. While taking the depositions, Bundy would refer to himself in the third person—as if he was a lawyer representing a client—and not a defendant facing possible conviction and a death sentence.

Although we tried to select a jury in Tallahassee, the extensive pretrial publicity precluded finding an unbiased jury in Tallahassee. Venue was changed to Miami and the trial took place during the months of June and July of 1979. This case was one of the first to be tried in Florida with cameras in the courtroom. The trial was aired live all over the country and other parts of the world. Over 250 members of the media were in attendance, packing the Miami-Dade Courthouse which ultimately let them use an entire floor to house their video/audio equipment and support staff.

The jury deliberated a little over six hours before finding Bundy guilty of all charges. A few days later, after additional testimony and argument, the jury recommended the death penalty. The judge then imposed the death penalty, finding a host of “aggravating factors” justified a death sentence, including: 1) the crimes were especially heinous, atrocious, and cruel; 2) Bundy had a prior conviction for use of violence against a person (Carole Daronche); 3) at the time of the crimes, Bundy was under a sentence of imprisonment; and 4) the murders were committed during another offense, i.e., burglary, a qualifying offense under the death penalty statute.

After many fruitless appeals and post-conviction motions, Bundy was executed on Tuesday morning, January 24, 1989, at Florida State Prison. He was 42 years of age. We do not know how many young women Bundy killed. Many victims simply went missing and their bodies were never found. Indeed, there is some evidence Bundy killed his first victim when he was only fourteen years old, a young neighbor girl who went missing and her body never located.

I am often asked what motivated Bundy to kill. We’ll never truly know. Bundy said he was triggered by pornography, but like so many of his so-called “confessions,” I’m not sure you can believe anything he said. Prior to trial, the judge ordered a psychiatric examination to determine whether Bundy was competent to stand trial. I had two preeminent psychiatrists travel to Tallahassee to examine Bundy: 1) Dr. Hervey Cleckly, a forensic psychiatrist from Augusta, Georgia, who wrote the Three Faces of Eve, a true story of the life of a woman with multiple personalities; and 2) Dr. Emanuel Tanay, a forensic psychiatrist from Grosse Pointe, Michigan, who was recognized as the world’s leading authority on serial killers. Both psychiatrists found Bundy competent to stand trial and concluded he was a psychopath, i.e., when Bundy killed, he knew what he was doing, but wanted the self-satisfaction of doing it. Bundy definitely exhibited multiple personalities, i.e., one day he could assume the role of a lawyer, another day he could

blend in as a student on a college campus. Of course, we also know there were days when he became “Ted the Killer.”

If you met him in a social setting, professional meeting, or class reunion, Bundy would be well dressed, articulate, funny, and would fit in with the crowd. You would never suspect that he was a serial killer or that he had multiple personalities. We should all remember the words of Dr. Tanay, who wrote, “The evil of a psychopath . . . is not readily recognized by the untrained observer . . . A sadistic killer’s success depends on his appearing normal.”

Stay safe and vigilant.

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NOTE TO LARRY FROM EDITOR ON BEHALF OF CLASS: Thank you so much, Larry, for taking the time and effort to share your incredible career story with us. The fact that you spent that much time with truly one of the world’s worst serial killers is mouth dropping. We are all so proud to have you as one of our classmates. I know, personally, I have told everyone I know, at least once, about my classmate who tried and convicted Ted Bundy.

KEN SELLERS

Ken, who goes by the pen name Ken Gray, wants to thank his classmates for the increase in sales of his novel *Young Love*. You can order it on Amazon.com.

Ken pictured below at Gilbert’s Resort, Key Largo. Possibly another Ernest Hemingway in the making.

kgsellers49@gmail.com



PRAYERS

For **Marion Nowlin**, husband of classmate **Ann Smith Nowlin**. Marion and Ann traveled to Indiana in mid-November to visit Marion's family. Marion suffered an "episode" that caused four broken ribs and sternum in the process of resuscitating him. He then developed an infection from the broken ribs and the infection caused damage to a heart valve. He underwent successful open-heart surgery to repair the valve. He is currently in the fight for his life to recover from the open-heart surgery. Marion is a Marine and Vietnam Veteran. They do not come any tougher. He continues to amaze his team of doctors and nurses. There have been many ups and downs along the way and Marion's journey is far from over. Ann would appreciate your prayers.

ann.nowlin@yahoo.com



For **Darlene Church Friend**. [Message from Darlene]

What a year 2021 was. Bobby and I celebrated our 25th wedding anniversary in June. Then came July and our world was turned upside down when I was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer. Fortunately it was caught early. After four chemo treatments, I finally had Whipple surgery. The surgery was 8 hours and the hospital stay was 9 days. The lymph nodes around the pancreas did not have to be removed because the cancer had not spread. The doctors and nursing staff were amazed at how well my recovery went with no complications which is what my family prayed for. I attribute that to my faith, prayers and positive attitude. Bobby and my daughter have been wonderful caregivers and I am so blessed to have them in my life.

I am scheduled to come out of retirement and go back to work at FSCJ in February.

Thank you so much for your thoughts, prayers and cards. May 2022 bring everyone peace, comfort and good health. AND . . . I am cancer free.

Darlene: dfriend708@aol.com

Bobby: peace2go@aol.com



For **LaTrelle Lee LeFevre** who is receiving treatment for Lymphoma. She is continuing to do well.

r.lefevre@att.net



For the family of **Edwina “Doodles” Millican Richards**. Edwina battled cancer off and on for years and always came back strong until she could no longer do it. Edwina passed away on October 7, 2021 at Shands Hospital in Gainesville, Florida with her beautiful daughter, Lee Abell, by her side. Edwina’s husband, Clint, passed away in December 2020.

Lee’s email address is mleartworks@gmail.com.



For the family of **Sandy Goodwin**. Sandy passed away on October 27, 2021. Sandy was the epitome of kindness and a true southern gentleman. Prayers for his beloved wife Debbie and family. <https://www.dignitymemorial.com/obituaries/knoxville-tn/alexander-goodwin-10424299>

You can reach out to Sandy’s wife Debbie on her Facebook page.



For the family of **Emery Clance**. Emery passed away on November 19, 2021. Emery's wife, Jean Emerson Clance (Class of '68), posted on her Facebook Page in remembrance of Emery "I have fought the good fight. I have finished the race. I have kept the faith. 2 Timothy 4:7." As many of you may know, Emery battled pancreatic cancer for over seven years. <https://www.jacksonville.com/obituaries/p0169977>

Jean's email address is mjc312@comcast.net



For the family of **Gary Coulliette**. [Message from Gary] My sweet wife Gwen went to heaven early on Christmas Eve. Gwen had a very long and difficult journey into Alzheimer's Disease. I was beside her all the way. We were married 50+ years and we loved each other very much. I will be having a celebration of life for her in the coming weeks with just family and a few close friends. Please remember us in prayer. <https://secure.funeralwebhosting.com/qsf/notices/Gwendolyn-Coulliette>

gcoulliette3@gmail.com



REACH OUT AND TOUCH (SOMEBODY'S HAND) [Diana Ross]

Let's all share a cup of kindness this new year with somebody in our class. You can start by sending an email to one (or all) of those listed above. It takes so little and means so much.