

HOMECOMING 2022
September 23-24

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GRAND MARSHAL VITUS LANG

When Vitus Lang went to school in Victoria as a lad, he would stay with his grandparents who lived on the southwest edge of town. On weekends, he would go home to his parents who had a farm near Toulon. From those days of restricted travel, Vitus now found himself in the lead vehicle as the Grand Marshal of the 2021 Victoria Homecoming Parade.

Vitus was born at his grandparents' farm near Victoria on August 31, 1932, to his parents, Peter J. and Regina (Pfannenstiel) Lang. He graduated from Victoria High School in 1950 and was among the first class to graduate from the current school building.

After high school, Vitus served in the Army, being stationed in Newfoundland during the Korean War. He then returned to Victoria and married Anita Wasinger on October 1, 1955. Together, they had four children, all graduates of Victoria High School, including **Laurie Lang '76** (Al Lang), **Janet Frank '77** (Leon Frank), **Karen Cruce '80** (Steve Cruce), and **Dave Lang '87**. Vitus and his family lived on a farm one mile south of Victoria. Vitus and Anita also have nine grandchildren and 18 great-grandchildren.

Vitus still lives on the farm. He received the Bankers Award for Conservation for his work on terraces and shelter belts. Unfortunately, Anita passed away on New Year's Day of this year.

Vitus belongs to the Victoria Knights of Columbus and is a member of the Basilica of St. Fidelis where, until recent years, he sang with the Adult Choir. In the past, he was also a member of the Victoria community variety show, Sweet and Sour Krauts.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

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SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE:

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Kathy Schulte Dreiling-Amrein '76
Gerard Wellbrock '86
Peggy VonFeldt Klaus '89
Meagan Schmidtberger Wellbrock '02
Kori Braun – Advisor



Homecoming 2021 Back to “Almost Normal” After Pandemic

With the overtones of the Covid-19 pandemic still lingering, the town of Victoria began to feel like home again as alums returned for Homecoming 2021.

While the overall turnout wasn't quite as large as expected, it was invigorating to see so many classes get together for their reunions, even though some of them were overdue by a year.

The homecoming celebration began like it normally does with the 25th annual Alumni Golf Classic at the Fort Hays Golf Course. It was a beautiful day with 76

golfers hitting the links. **James Brungardt '05** and his crew of volunteers have done a great job in keeping the tournament going. Look for more on the golf tournament elsewhere in the newsletter.

The Friday afternoon social at the Victoria V.F.W. was again lightly attended. Due to the low attendance of this event for several years, the Alumni Board has decided to no longer offer the hall as a gathering place before the homecoming parade. There will still be a post-game gathering at the

VFW; more information on this will follow in the fall newsletter.

The homecoming parade had an increased number of entries, which made sense since there should have been twice as many classes holding reunions.

After the parade, many alums took the time to stroll through the halls of the high school, many of



them seeing the “new addition” for the first time, even though that addition has been open for 12 years.

The homecoming football game was a battle with former Mid-Continent League rival Wakeeney. It was a back and forth game, but unfortunately the Knights came up a little short, losing 42-40.

After the game, the V.F.W. was available for gatherings. Like the afternoon social, this was sparsely attended. The V.F.W. will be available for post-game festivities this fall, but if attendance doesn't

increase, this event too may not be held in the future.

One event that will not be going away is the Alumni Memorial Mass at the Basilica of St. Fidelis. The 2021 Memorial Mass marked the first time that the adult choir had sung in over a year. They showed no signs of rust, and everyone was elated to have the Mass once again.

The alumni dance had the biggest shakeup of the whole weekend. Due to an unforeseen circumstance, Anthony and The Anamals could not perform at

the dance. Instead, **Tim Pfeifer '76** stepped out of his comfort zone and played the role of DJ for the night. After a slow start, Tim began to get others involved with the dance. **Jim Schmidtberger '70, Jane Schulte Goodheart '70, Tom Pfeifer '76, Mary Dreiling Jones '81, and Bob Dreiling '76** began to take turns singing and getting the crowd involved.

After all of the disruptions of 2020, the 2021 homecoming weekend events were a pleasant reminder of what a special town and alumni we truly have.

Board of Directors News

Rick Rajewski '69 has resigned from the Alumni Board of Directors. Rick agreed to join the Alumni Board in 2009 and officially began serving for the 2010 year. He was well known to be all around during each year's homecoming festivities with a camera in his hand to document everything that was going on. Most of the pictures that ended up in the newsletter or on the alumni website were taken by Rick.

Pictures, of course, were not Rick's only contribution to the Alumni Association. He was also instrumental in helping to get cars lined up for the parade, oftentimes using his own vehicle to usher either the

grand marshal or an Alumni Hall of Famer through the streets of Victoria. Rick will be greatly missed by his fellow board members.

Taking Rick's position on the board is **Anne Ruder Dinkel '90**. Anne is currently a Kindergarten/First Grade teacher at O'Loughlin Elementary in Hays. She was previously employed by the Victoria school district from 1997 to 2020. Anne is married to **Craig '84** and they have two children who are also VHS alums, **Christen '07** and **Corey '12**. Anne is the daughter of **Allen '62** and **Mary Kuhn Ruder '62**.

VAA Hall of Fame Honors 58 So Far Time to Nominate the Next Honorees

The Victoria Alumni Association Hall of Fame was started in 2002 as a way to honor teachers, administrators, and school personnel of the Victoria School System.

In 2010, the "Alum at Large" category was added giving special attention to alums who have made a significant contribution to their fellow man.

Basically, anyone who has taught, been taught, or has worked in the Victoria schools is eligible for the VAA Hall of Fame.

Including the inductees from 2021, there are now 58 members in the Hall of Fame. There are 35 teachers, five administrators, five school personnel, and 25 members who are graduates from Victoria.

Two of the inductees qualify as

both a teacher and an administrator. These "double" qualifiers are Pat O'Brien and David Ottley. Likewise, several Hall of Fame teachers were alums long before they were employed by the school: **Ray Schulte '47**, **Benny Schulte '49**, **Arlene Wellbrock Pfeifer '50**, **Marge Rome '58**, **Det Roth Younger '58**, **Corrine Dinkel '60**, **Jerry Brungardt '62**, **Kathy Portland Hoffman '63**, and **Bill Kuhn '63**.

There are also two from the school personnel category in the Hall of Fame who began as an alum of Victoria: **Robert VonLintel '53** and **Wilma Pfeifer Wellbrock '51**.

Lastly, there are two members in the Hall of Fame who have served on the Victoria School Board: **Steve Sander '68** and

Patrick Scott. Steve served on the School Board for 20 years, while Patrick served for two years before he had to resign when he moved to Hays.

The next group to be inducted into the VAA Hall of Fame is now up to you. Nominations are due on June 1, 2022.

To make your nomination, go to the alumni website, www.victoriaalumni.com and scroll down on the main page to the Hall of Fame section. There you can find a form to assist you in making your nomination. Your nomination can be either emailed to info@victoriaalumni.com or you can send it to Victoria Alumni Association, PO Box 382, Victoria KS 67671.

The Boys of Fall Make 2nd Straight Trip to Sub-State

Coach Oberle: “I’m very proud of our seniors.”

Led by two brothers, the Wheatland-Grinnell Thunderhawks ended the 2021 Victoria Knights football season by exacting a little revenge on the Knights for ending their season in 2020. The outgoing seniors can hold their head up high, finishing the season with a 10-2 record and their second straight trip to the semi-final game.

The Knights finished their 2021 regular season with a 7-1 record, heading into their first-round playoff game with Peabody-Burns, who would be playing their final season of 8-man football. The Knights proved too much for the Warriors, as Carson Werth rushed for 208 yards and six touchdowns, leading Victoria to a 52-6 victory.

After winning five straight games by the 45-point rule, the Knights needed all four quarters to defeat the Caldwell Bluejays in their second-round matchup. In the end, Coach Doug Oberle’s option offense proved too much for the Bluejays, as Carson Werth and Grant Schoenrock (son of **Ken ’92** and **Amy Scheck Schoenrock ’93**) combined for six touchdowns to help the Knights to a 58-52 seesaw victory and advancing to a quarter-finals matchup against Dighton.

Heading into the 2nd quarter of the Dighton game, Victoria found themselves in an unfamiliar position — trailing the other team. Fortunately, that deficit was short-lived as Werth, Schoenrock, and Thaddeus Wohler led Victoria to a 46-28

victory to advance to their second consecutive semi-final game.

Facing a consolidated team from Wheatland/Grinnell, who had never been to a state championship football game, Victoria knew they would have their hands full. The Knights couldn’t seem to slow down the balanced run/pass attack of the Thunderhawks, as Wheatland/Grinnell ended the Knights 2021 season with a 42-30 victory.

Coach Oberle summed up the season saying, “I’m very proud of our seniors, a great group of kids. To play in two sub-state championship games — a lot of kids would love that opportunity.”

Volleyball Team Finishes 4th at State

Kassi Weber Named to All-Tournament

For the third straight year, the Lady Knights Volleyball team won their Sub-state tournament to advance to the state tournament for the second time in three years, returning with a 4th place finish.

While that statement may seem a bit confusing, due to Covid the first round after Sub-state in 2020 was called a Quarterfinal round, where the Lady Knights lost to eventual champion Central Plains.

While KSHSAA technically does not call our Lady Knights a three-year state qualifier, we all know that they’ve been in the final eight all three years.

Last fall, the Lady Knights faced quality teams in the state tournament and played well enough to make it out of pool play into the semi-finals. They ended the season placing fourth in the state tournament. The 2021 team was led by seniors Kassi Weber (daughter of **John ’89** and **Kami Wellbrock Weber ’94**) and

Kaitlyn Windholz (daughter of **Jared ’93** and **Andrea Dinges Windholz ’96**), who garnered numerous post-season awards.

Sarah Nuss coached the Lady Knights to a 27-5 regular season record heading into their Sub-State Tournament at Sylvan Grove. In the Sub-State Tournament, the Lady Knights defeated Lincoln in two sets, 25-12, 25-16, before facing a tough Ness City team in the finals, winning 25-19, 23-25, 25-10, to advance to the State Tournament.

Traveling to Dodge City for the 1A State Tournament, our Lady Knights went 2-1 in Pool Play after beating the Lakeside Knights of Downs-Lakeside 26-24, 27-25, losing to top-seeded Pretty Prairie 20-25, 8-25, then battling back to defeat Rawlins County 26-24, 25-16.

Despite the loss to Pretty Prairie, the Lady Knights were able to advance to the semi-final round thanks to the tie-breaker rules.

In their semi-final game, they faced local favorite Spearville, who traveled just 19 miles to the tournament. The Royal Lancers defeated the Lady Knights 25-14, 25-21 to send Victoria to the consolation round, against perennial power Centralia. Battling for the 3rd place trophy, the Panthers ended the Lady Knights season by defeating them 25-19, 25-20.

For the second year in a row, Kassi Weber was named to the Kansas Volleyball Association All-Tournament. Weber earned 1st team honors for her 2021 performance, after receiving 2nd team distinction in 2020. In November, the Kansas Volleyball Association announced their all-state team and recognized Weber with first team honors and Kaitlyn Windholz with the honorable mention award.

The seniors finished their final season with a 31-8 record.



19 Teams Competed in 2021

Hoping to Grow Even More in 2022

by James Brungardt '05

My Fellow Alumni,

Thank you so much to each and every one of you that participated in the 2021 VHS Alumni Golf Tournament. We had nineteen teams which is the most we've had in all the years I've been running this tournament (two years). I'm hoping we can continue to grow and have more teams this year.

Last year's champion team was the experienced foursome of **Kevin Kline '89, Matt Berens '89, Darrell Dortland '89, and John Weber '89**. That just goes to show you that even the group that you think is just there for the free beverages can come out of nowhere and be the surprise winners. Congrats to that great group of guys on shooting a very impressive score.

My team finished in fourth place. I started looking for people to replace my existing teammates but then I remembered that **Jared Pfeifer '07** always helps me run this tournament and **Cole Dreiling '08** buys the shirts for the winners, so it looks like I'm stuck.

Jared, Cole, **Pat Sander Legleiter '65, Patty Dreiling Dreiling '66, Jeanette Wagner Pfannenstiel '70, Matt Sander '03, Brenton Hoffman '09**, and many others helped me immensely and I really appreciate it. Without the help of these great people, we wouldn't be able to do this and raise as much money for the VHS scholarship fund. I'd like to personally thank everyone who helped out, and I invite you all to do the same again in 2022.

Many tournaments have to make announcements saying they've made a lot of great changes in order to get people to

come play, but not here—we're not changing anything! Why mess with a great thing?

So, mark your calendars and get your friends together for the 2022 VHS Alumni Golf tournament on September 23, 2022. It's a great way to spend time with old friends and play a little golf.

The weather is usually beautiful and it's a really fun, laid-back atmosphere.

Just remember, you do not have to be an alumnus to play; we'll take anyone's money.

Every year we have golfers of all different ages and skill levels playing, so whether you play every week or once a year, make plans to come on out and help support this great event for a great cause!

Look for more details about the 2022 tournament in the fall newsletter.

Enjoying the 2021
Alumni Golf
Tournament were

(l-r):

Don Pruitt,
Pete Braun '62,
Gary Stramel '62,
and **Bob**
Stramel '56.





CLASS NOTES



Ferrill Standage, former grade school principal, would like to say “hi” to everyone associated with the Alumni Association: “Thank you for all the great work you do. God bless you all!”

1940's **Fred Weigel '47** would like to report that there is nothing new for more mature folks like himself. He's just up to the same “old” stuff!

1950's **Robert Brungardt '51** and his wife Mary Kathryn, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on August 21, 2021. They have three children and seven grandchildren.

1960's **Marvin Kuhn '64** and Mary Goddard were married on May 16, 2020, in Hill City. Mary is a graduate from Grand Island, Nebraska. Mary has hunting cabins on a ranch west of Hill City called 7=Adventures. They both love to go dancing.

Mary Catherine Windholz '65 announces that she has retired from Wal-Mart after 35 years.

Gary Rohr '66 would like to thank everyone who helps make the Alumni Association a success. He and his wife, Patty, enjoyed the company of his class during their 55th reunion at homecoming 2021.

Judy Kippes Sherlock '66 has been married to her husband, Steve, for 48 years, as of homecoming 2021. They raised two daughters and both are now married. They also raised a grandson from birth who is now 18 years old. They have two additional grandsons. Judy is now retired, and she and Steve are planning to travel in the near future. They love living in Colorado and are very active in their Catholic Church.

Brenda Schmidtberger Yoder '67 has a message for all who help with the Alumni Association: “You are all doing a great job!”

Mary Schulte '68 sent in a review of the fall 2021 edition of the Next-Page: “Great job on the newsletter.”

Karen Herl Bland '69 says, “Hats off to the VHS Alumni Association Board of Directors, Newsletter Committee, Membership Committee and Scholarship Committee for your time, effort, and hard work to make this school association the best. You volunteers rock and we appreciate you!”

Rick Rajewski '69 retired on January 1, 2021, after 45 years of family medicine. He has been continuing in the health care field by caring for several family members. He still is able to go running a few times per week, which he really enjoys. Rick also resigned from the VHS Alumni Board after homecoming 2021. He is expecting even greater work from the board in the years to come.

1970's **D Dinkel Bates '70** (formerly named Dorothy) is now retired and is spending her time by volunteering at a literacy center and a humane shelter. She loves living in Canon City, Colorado.

Rick Robben '76 retired from Rural Telephone in April of 2021 after 15 years. Rick is married to **Marla Brungardt Robben '78**.

Stan Younger '77 has spent over 30 years working in aviation and now joins Hallmark University as the new Dean for the College of Aeronautics. Stan is the son of **Jeanette Schumacher Younger '50**.

1980's **Joe Robben '81** has sold his businesses—Robben Insurance and Robben Crop Insurance. He and his wife Gail are both retired as of February 1, 2022.



CLASS NOTES



1990's **Heather Wittman Arasmith '96** has started an appraisal company, Sunflower Appraisals, in Manhattan, KS. The company is co-owned with an associate appraiser and was open for business in May of 2021. Heather is the daughter of **Jerry '70** and **Rhoda Windholz Urban '76**.

2000's **Wendy Hoffman Pfeifer '03** started a new role within the College of Business at Kansas State University on January 1, 2022, as Director of Corporate Engagement. Wendy is married to **Troy Pfeifer '02** and is the daughter of **Dave '82** and **Brenda Braun Hoffman '83**.

Kayla Schmidtberger North '05 was named the Hays Post teacher of the month for November 2021. Kayla teaches kindergarten at Holy Family Elementary School in Hays. Kayla is married to **Josh North '02** and her parents are **Wayne '76** and Marie **Schmidtberger**.

Chelsey Dreiling '06 graduated with her doctorate from Cleveland Chiropractic in December of 2020 and opened her new practice on May 10, 2021. Riverside Chiropractic, North Topeka, is located about 6 miles to the north of I-70 off of Hwy 75 in Hunters Ridge Circle. Chelsey is the daughter of **Clete '79** and **Rose Ann Kuhn Dreiling '77** and the granddaughter of **Connie Brungardt Dreiling '53**.

Kasandra Huser Bliss '09 and her husband Taylor announce the birth of a daughter on September 16, 2021. Natalie Rose has an older brother, Wyatt. Wyatt and Natalie's grandparents are **Kevin '84** and Kathy **Huser**.

2010's **Desirae Karlin '11** graduated from Fort Hays State University with a Bachelor of Nursing degree.

Falynn Wasinger Rogers '11 and her husband Dan announce the birth of a daughter, Olivia Rose, on September 23, 2021.

Rylee Broyles '12 completed her law degree from Washburn University School of Law, and after passing the bar exam, is a member of the Joseph Hollander Craft Law Firm with the Wichita branch.

Amanda Braun Disberger '12 and her husband Jay announce the birth of their son Oliver John, born on November 20, 2021, in Bountiful, Utah. Oliver's grandparents are **John '84** and Connie **Braun** and his great-grandparents are **John '49** and Josie **Braun**.

Connor '14 and **Haley Robben Gagnon '15** announce the birth of twin boys, Wilkes Layton and Whitten Landry born on December 8, 2021. Grandparents of the twins are **Jason Robben '96** and **Rosa Leiker Rome '97** and their great-grandparents are **Norman '72** and Linda **Robben** and Mike and **Marilyn Suppes Leiker-Pfanennstiel '78**.

Sam Ottley '14 and Karley Cavanaugh were married at the Basilica of St. Fidelis on October 31, 2020.

Brooke Schmidt '14 and Brandon Ruckle announce the birth of a son, Beckham Gray, born on November 16, 2021. His grandparents are **Robert '83** and **Melissa Weber Schmidt '86**.

Parker Riedel '16 and Piper Guy announce the birth of a daughter, Renlyn Leanora, born on December 2, 2021. Renlyn's grandparents are **Terry '86** and Gina **Riedel**.

Madisyn Gerhardt '17 and Alexander Schmitz were married at the Basilica of St. Fidelis on October 16, 2021. Madisyn's parents are **Frank '79** and **Racquel Gasper Gerhardt '87**.

Lucas '17 and **Hannah VonLintel Taylor '18** announce the birth of a son, Theodore Nix, born November 13, 2021. His grandparents are **Darin VonLintel '86** and **Travis '99** and Stacy **Dinges**. His great-grandfather is **Dennis VonLintel '56**.



In Loving Memory



Ron Bates passed away June 4, 2021. He is survived by his wife, **D Dinkel Bates '70**; two daughters; three grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

Bobby Maltby passed away July 15, 2021, at the Great Bend Health and Rehabilitation Center. He is survived by his wife, **Arbutus (Boots) Basgall Maltby '59**.

Clarita Dinkel passed away July 23, 2021, at Via Christ Village, Hays. She is survived by her husband **Melvin '60**; two sons; two sisters; and two grandchildren.

Theresa Leiker Haselhorst '47 passed away August 7, 2021, at Good Samaritan Society of Hays. She is survived by three sons; three daughters; a sister, **Aquina Leiker Rajewski '46**; 12 grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

Betty Weigel Denning '65 passed away August 19, 2021, at Diverse Care of Council Grove with her family at her bedside. She is survived by a daughter, **Alicia Denning Kelley '02**; four sisters, **Theresa Weigel Klaus '61**, **Twila Weigel**, **Agnes Weigel '73**, and **Stella Weigel '74**; and three grandchildren.

Damian Schulte '59 passed away August 28, 2021. He is survived by his wife, Alicia; two daughters; and a sister, **Claudia Schulte Hertel '63**.

Leon Hammerschmidt passed away August 31, 2021, at Red Bud Care Center, Plainville. He is survived by his wife, Melba; six daughters; a brother, **William '62**; four sisters, **Alice Hammerschmidt Arnold '56**, **Mary Hammerschmidt '62**, **Jo Ann Hammerschmidt Jacobs '70**, and **Theresa Hammerschmidt Conboy '72**; and 13 grandchildren.

Vivian Hammerschmidt Applehans '59 passed away September 1, 2021. She is survived by three sons; a daughter; four brothers, **Verlin '63**, **Vinard '66**, **Valery '70**, and **Vernon '75**; one sister, **Virginia Hammerschmidt Dinkel '61**; 4 grandchildren; and 2 great-grandchildren.

Cecilia Crawford passed away September 2, 2021, at Hays Medical Center. She is survived by her husband, **Ted '54**; one son; two daughters; three brothers; a sister; nine grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

Del Rajewski '51 passed away September 7, 2021, at Lutheran Hospital, Wheat Ridge, Colorado. Survivors include his wife, Donna; four daughters; four step-children; 11 grandchildren; and nine great-grandchildren.

Steve Wasinger '90 passed away September 12, 2021, at Kansas University Medical Center, Kansas City. He is survived by his wife, Kerry; one son; one daughter; his mother, **Janice Braun Wasinger '69**; one brother, **David '93**; and a sister, **Melissa Wasinger Mayers '97**.

David Urban passed away October 8, 2021. He is survived by his wife, Debbie; two daughters; a brother, **Darrel '69**; two sisters, **Darletha Urban Zimmerman '66** and **Diane Urban Parker '73**; and seven grandchildren.

Jeneice Rohr passed away October 10, 2021, at Russell Regional Hospital. She is survived by a son, **Leland '78**; three daughters, **Cathy Rohr Tidball '77**, **Cindy Rohr Weigel '80**, and **Pam Rohr Bieker '85**; two sisters, **Carol Scheck McAdoo '67** and **Sharon Scheck Schoendaller '70**; eight grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren.





In Loving Memory continued



Carol Stramel Billinger '65 passed away October 12, 2021, at her home in Victoria. She is survived by her husband, **Gilbert '63**; two sons, **Joe '95** and **Jim '00**; three daughters, **Beth Billinger Brungardt '86**, **Cheryl Billinger Berens '89**, and **Colleen Billinger Carlson '91**; a brother, **Gary Stramel '62**; three sisters, **Bernie Stramel Strong '59**, **Kathy Stramel Pryor '66**, and **Janice Stramel Seib '73**; 19 grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

Gilbert Sander '49 passed away October 15, 2021, in Great Bend. He is survived by three sons, one daughter, eight grandchildren, and 18 great-grandchildren.

Allen Dinkel '68 passed away October 18, 2021, at Hays Medical Center. He is survived by his wife, **Gloria Kisner Dinkel '68**; two sons; one daughter; five brothers; **Darrell '64**, **Ron '71**, **Ruben '75**, **Jeff '79**, and **Pat '81**; and one sister, **D Dinkel Bates '70**.

Viola Holzmeister Dechant '51 passed away November 11, 2021, at Hays Medical Center. She is survived by her husband, Herbert; three sons; two daughters; one sister; 13 grandchildren; and 15 great-grandchildren.

Lillian Graf Becker '59 passed away November 24, 2021, at her home in Russell. She is survived by her husband, John; one son; and one grandson.

Kenny Kippes '69 passed away December 4, 2021, at Hays Medical Center. He is survived by his wife, Margaret; two sons; three daughters; seven grandchildren; and one sister, **Judy Kippes Sherlock '66**.

Laverne Schumacher passed away December 7, 2021, at Hays Medical Center. He is survived by his wife, **Jane Urban Schumacher '57**; two sons; one daughter; two brothers; eight grandchildren; and nine great-grandchildren.

Kenneth Riedel '59 passed away December 10, 2021. He is survived by one son; one daughter; two brothers, **Don '74** and **Ron '74**; and one grandson.

Julian Stramel '54 passed away December 30, 2021, at Overland Park Regional Medical Center. He is survived by his wife, Gladys; one son; three daughters; two brothers, **Bob '56** and **Stan '69**; a sister, **Mary Ann Stramel Hagan '59**; 12 grandchildren; 21 great-grandchildren; and one great-great-grandchild.

Anita Lang passed away January 1, 2022, at Good Samaritan Society of Hays Care Center. She is survived by her husband, **Vitus '50**; one son, **David '87**; three daughters, **Laurie Lang Lang '76**, **Janet Lang Frank '77**, and **Karen Lang Cruce '80**; nine grandchildren; and 18 great-grandchildren.

Leon A. Dinkel '52 passed away January 6, 2022, at his home. His survivors include his wife, Lillian; two sons, **George '73** and **Joseph '81**; four daughters, **Diana Dinkel '72**, **Mary Dinkel Stecklein '76**, **Annette Dinkel Wiesner '78**, and **Therese Dinkel Augustine '83**; three brothers, **Elmer '53**, **Ralph '60**, and **James '63**; nine grandchildren; and 11 great-grandchildren.

Lillian Sander Dreiling '50 passed away January 8, 2022. She is survived by two sons; two daughters; two sisters, **Alice Sander Rohr '52** and **Rosemary Sander McMahan '58**; 11 grandchildren; and nine great-grandchildren.

Chris Weigel passed away January 9, 2022, at Hays Medical Center. Survivors include his wife, Donna; one son; his parents, Cecil and **Ruth Dreiling Weigel '63**; three sisters, Tonya Murphy, **Jackie Weigel Jaimez '90**, and April Basgall; and seven grandchildren.

Vera Romme Schmidtberger '50 passed away January 14, 2022, at River Bend Assisted Living Center, Great Bend. She is survived by one son, one brother, one sister, four grandchildren, and 12 great-grandchildren.



In Loving Memory continued



Juanita Arnhold Hoffman '52 passed away January 24, 2022. She is survived by three sons, two daughters, 18 grandchildren, and 13 great-grandchildren.

Albertine "Tina" Braun Geist-Braun '58 passed away January 27, 2022, at Hays Medical Center. She is survived by her husband, **Pete Jr. '62**; two sons, **Bill Geist '77** and **Tom Geist '78**; two daughters, **Jane Geist Cline '80** and **Carol Geist '83**; her step-children, **Jeff Braun '85**, **Craig Braun '86**, **Chris Braun '86**, and **Tamara Braun Haberkorn '90**; one brother, **Fritz '56**; two sisters, **Julianna Urban** and **Charlene Braun Unrein '63**; six grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; ten step-grandchildren; and two step-great-grandchildren.

Lucy Schippers Baier '54 passed away February 3, 2022, at Hays Medical Center. Survivors include four daughters, **Susan Baier Legleiter '74**, **Mary Baier Pfeifer '75**, **Jane Baier Schumacher '79**, and **Betty Baier Johnson '83**; one brother, **Paul Schippers '55**; two sisters, **Sister Mary Ann Schippers CSA** and **Lillian Schippers Leiker '58**; twelve grandchildren; 21 great-grandchildren; four step-grandchildren; and eight step-great-grandchildren.

Viola Dinkel Richmeier '51 passed away February 11, 2022, at the Gove County Medical Center in Quinter. She is survived by four sons; two grandsons; one brother, **Fr. Harvey Dinkel**; and one sister, **Mary Dinkel Younker '48**.

John Linenberger passed away February 22, 2022. He is survived by his wife, **Marlene Brungardt Linenberger '57**; one son; and three grandchildren.

John McMillin passed away February 24, 2022, at Cedar Village Care Center in Ness City. He is survived by his wife, **Delores Braun McMillin '59**, and two daughters.

Melvin Basgall '60 passed away February 26, 2022, at Locust Grove Village in LaCrosse. He is survived by his wife, **Jametta**; three sons; two daughters; two sisters, **Norma Basgall '61** and **Kay Basgall Guffey '66**; nine grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

Aquina Leiker Rajewski '46 passed away February 26, 2022, at her home near Vincent. She is survived by three sons, **Rick '69**, **Neal '71**, and **Roger '80**; four daughters, **Susan Rajewski Kisner '74**, **Rosann Rajewski Schippers '75**, **Joann Rajewski Wheeler '78**, and **Leeann Rajewski Fortino '85**; 15 grandchildren; and ten great-grandchildren.

Mark Rome '71 passed away March 3, 2022, at his home in Victoria. He is survived by his wife, **Mary Jo Schulte Rome '71**; three sons, **Aaron '97**, **Jason '01**, and **Garret '04**; one daughter, **Andra Rome Cunningham '99**; two sisters, **Carol Rome Dinkel '59** and **Iris Rome Miller '64**; and eight grandchildren.

Kenneth Braun '52 passed away March 6, 2022, at Via Christi Village in Hays. He is survived by his wife, **Yvonne Brungardt Braun '56**; four sons; nine step-children; one sister, **Cora Braun Schulte '55**; eight grandchildren; one great-granddaughter; 21 step-grandchildren; and 13 step-great-grandchildren.

Rebecca Beery Willis '82 passed away on March 13, 2022, at Hays Medical Center. She is survived by two sons; one daughter; her father; two brothers, **Charles (Chuck) Beery '86** and **William Beery**; one step-brother, **Adam Brown '89**; one step-sister; and five grandchildren.

Arbutus (Boots) Basgall Maltby '59 passed away March 15, 2022, at Medicalodges of Kinsley. She is survived by many nieces and nephews.

*Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them.
May they rest in peace.*



Alumni Raffle Winners Donate Their Winnings

The 2021 alumni raffle had a few similarities to the 2017 drawing. Two of the 2021 winners were also drawn in the 2017 raffle. In 2017, **Mark Windholz '84** received the \$200 prize and **Theresa Dreiling Ellis '57** was drawn as the \$400 winner. In 2021, those same two were winners again, with Mark getting his ticket drawn for the \$400 prize and Theresa this time received the \$200 prize. Essentially, Mark and Theresa flip-flopped prizes from 2017.

Theresa donated her 2021 winnings back to the Alumni Association, a gesture that she also did back in 2017. Thank you to Theresa for her generosity.

She is not the only 2021 raffle winner to donate her winnings for the enjoyment of others. **Marthann**

Schulte '91 took her \$300 and used it to rent a bounce house for her local parish picnic. She even put up a sign next to the bounce house stating "Provided by the Victoria Alumni Association." Since Marthann lives in Minnesota, all of the parishioners had no idea what that meant, but the children enjoyed the bounce house all the same.

2021 RAFFLE WINNERS:

\$500 **Judy Braun Brummer '89**

\$400 **Mark Windholz '84**

\$300 **Marthann Schulte '91**

\$200 **Theresa Dreiling Ellis '57**

\$100 Carver Rajewski, grandson of **Rick Rajewski '69**

Four Lucky Grads Will Receive Scholarships

The Victoria Alumni Association Board of Directors has agreed to award four \$1,250 scholarships to members of this year's graduating class. This is the third year that \$1,250 has been awarded as the alumni scholarship amount, and these scholarships are made possible in part through the generous donations from our alumni.

The other major funding sources for the alumni scholarships are the golf tournament and the homecoming raffle. Once all of these sources are combined, the alumni board decides how many scholarships to award, and the

amount. After that, the selection of the recipients is made by the Scholarship Committee, who have only one job: select the best applicants.

The scholarship committee does not see any names when they consider who will receive the scholarships, only a key-code designates the person attached to the application. The scholarship committee returns the key-codes to the school, and then the school identifies the winners

Online Store Makes Alumni Business Very Convenient

The Alumni Association rolled out its online store just prior to Homecoming 2021. You might think that this would have been utilized primarily by the younger, more tech savvy alums. But the opposite was the case. Alums from 1955 through 2005 utilized the new "modern" form of digital transactions. Broken down further, the alums from 1955 through 1989 accounted for two thirds of those online payments.

Online Payments

There were still far more payments received through the mail than the online store, and either way is fine. The online store is just another option for those who wish to use it.

The Alumni Association's online store can be found on the alumni website, www.VictoriaAlumni.com. Once there, click on the "Online Payments" tab on the left hand side to enter the store.

The store may look a little bare as of this edition of the newsletter. That is because the Alumni Board will meet in July to set the prices for this fall's homecoming activities.

Once the board decides on the cost of the golf tournament, homecoming banquet, and several other items, the store will be updated and you will be able to conduct your business with the Alumni Association from the convenience of your house.

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1922—1940



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HIGH
SCHOOL
1941—1966

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Reminder to utilize Smile.Amazon.com next time you order online

The Alumni Association was contacted by Smile.Amazon.com in 2020. The good people at Smile.Amazon.com wanted to know if the Alumni Association was interested in getting some money, no strings attached. The Alumni Board couldn't pass up that deal, and a partnership was formed between the two entities.

To help contribute to the Alumni Association, follow these steps the next time you order from Amazon.com. Before you checkout, enter Smile.Amazon.com

into your browser's address bar. The icon in the upper left hand corner will change from Amazon.com to Smile.Amazon.com. Your shopping cart and other settings should automatically transfer to the Smile site.

Continue checking out, and when prompted, make sure you search for and select the Victoria High School Alumni Association from the list of charities. Your items will cost you exactly the same as the regular Amazon site, and the Alumni Association will get a small donation from your purchase.



Editors Note: Please help your newsletter committee. If you wish to see your family information—a death, birth, marriage, anniversary, or other news—appear in the newsletter, please submit it to VHS Alumni Association, PO Box 382, Victoria, Kansas 67671 or email to info@victoriaalumni.com