



Olney Memories # 165

October 30, 2025

Greetings to all of you on a pretty fall day (down here in Texas). Hope wherever you are the weather is enjoyable and the colored leaves are showing their finery. I do miss seeing the beautiful colors in Olney and just over the lines in Indiana...a sight to see for sure. Brown County in Indiana is a great place to go for a one or two day outing...check and see if the leaves are “blooming” for you! It’s one of my favorite places for a day get-away...J

We have some new members on our mailing list which is always a great thing and we welcome them! Remember please to let me know if your email address changes so I can make the changes on the address list! This is important! This helps me keep the list intact. Scratch your head to remember more memories to send in to me so I can post them! Please tell other of this **Olney Memories** Letter that is circulating for we always enjoy having new people on the mailing list! So keep this in mind when you are visiting with your friends and relatives. So long for this time.....

Ann King

Pianoann97@aol.com

Class of 1967

Kirkwood, Kathy (Daniel)

justntym2456@yahoo.com

Thank you. So fun to look at the pictures! Too bad Olney decided to stop this fun event of the May Day Parades!

Kirkwood, Kathy (Daniel)

Class of 1974

(This is Ann,.... Yes Kathy was for sure a special even and appears so many lined the streets to look and watch the parades each year as we have looked at these pictures. It is for sure and I also really would like to know the reason the parades were discontinued also. Does anyone happen to know? I'm just interested for it was just a hit for years and years and seems Olney was the only place in the county or maybe State that had this large event through the longstanding years. As we can tell it started way back in time! I remember my grandmother talking about when she was alive, and then how she enjoyed watching my own children marching in the May Day Parades, ! I remember my first parade in Kindergarten in Central School and the pride and joy I felt as a Mother *seeing my own children* march in the Parade, as they represented Central School too as they marched in their early years of school !! Can you believe that's where I attended also !J MY Aunt Verlyn Michael Higgins that was born I believe in 1918 attended Central School too....You see, this could have turned out to be a family thing. Now the thought just came to me. Another question for everyone....how many of you have multi (more than one generation attending one of the Grade Schools in Olney? That just might be interesting??? Think so....send in your answers. Ann)

Curtis Stoltz

These May Day pictures from the past are awesome! !

curtisstoltz@yahoo.com

Kelly Chilvers

kachilvers@gmail.com

My name is Kelly Chilvers, one of Mary's younger sisters. I was in the class of 1981 with Chip Jennings, who passed away two weeks after graduation in a plane crash. Could you please add me to your mailing list? I check the obits regularly for my name. Thankfully, I never see it. I do keep in touch with someone in Olney.

I have wonderful memories of Olney. Swim team when it was first launched in latish 70s, marching band, May Day parades, Mrs. Hatch's language arts class where we were forbidden from using get or got for the entire school year in her class. Olney was a great place to grow up in the 60s and 70s. We moved to northern Illinois right after I graduated and then I immediately went to Brasil as an exchange student through Rotary International (thank you, Tom Weber).

Kelly Chilvers

Class of 1981

Larry Judge

lj5313@frontier.com

Thank you for posting about my book. The book is \$20. Need all the help I can get. Postal rates for literature are dirt cheap and will ship if anyone is interested. I usually do shipping and handling for \$5. All proceeds go toward Museum Repairs.



Larry Judge

Class of '71

Doug Menendez

damenendez@yahoo.com

Dear Members of the ERHS Class of 1957,

My name is Doug Menendez, and I hope you will allow me a few moments of your time for something that is deeply meaningful to me.

I was born June 7, 1958, and recently I've begun piecing together the story of my biological roots. Through careful research, I've learned that my biological father was Harvey Loy Zimmerle—who was part of the ERHS graduating class of 1957.

As someone who never had the opportunity to know him personally, I'm reaching out with sincere hope that you might remember him, and perhaps even recall if you spent time with him during high school. I know that he played multiple sports, who were his close friends? Did he date anyone? Any memories or observations, however small, would be invaluable to me. I'm simply trying to connect with a classmate, and a young adult during that formative time.

If you're willing to share anything—stories, impressions, even a sentence or two—it would mean so much to me. I understand that high school was long ago, and memories may be faint, but even a brief recollection would be a gift.

You can reach me by email or phone. Thank you for taking the time to read this letter, and for considering helping me learn a little more about where I come from.

Sincerely,

Doug Menendez

PS. Dick Landenberger responded with information for my mother Betty which I appreciated so much. I know it's been a long time and memories have slipped away,

St. Louis, MO

314-580-5868

Ann Hill

33anthill@gmail.com



Miss Jenner taught third grade - on the right side of the- the end of the front row.

Miss Richardson - lived next to the Taylors my grandmother's friend and neighbor - Cricket Landenberger - lived in the big yellow house next to the Brauer's home.. I had her in first grade. She is one of the heavy set ladies - a LONG time ago - I am 90 years old.

Ann Hill

Graduated elsewhere

Marilyn Brock

marilynbrock39@yahoo.com

I had all them teachers the one on the left end was miss Bass ! The rest just can't remember the names.

Marilyn Brock

Class of '56

Ann King

Pianoann97@aol.com

This is Ann King and I asked Chris Stoltz if he knew anything about the large cross that used to be on the North side of Red Hill St. Park) that was on Display with lights at different times of the year. Along with that Churches would hold church services under the cross in the summertime, and revivals, and it was an annual event that many looked forward too. Now many of you reading this now would maybe have been children and faintly remember....but I was curious as to what happened to the cross. I realize this is not in Olney but Olney People supported this and attended these church services and events under and at the cross, so I think I can get away with talking about this here in Olney Memories. Curtis sent a picture of the cross below, which may bring back a memory or so. As well as I can remember there were stairs/steps leading up to the stage or bottom of this cross and that's where the services were held, the speakers, preachers, musical instruments, choirs and such were there too. I remember playing the piano for some of these meetings...which I & many others enjoyed a lot. The people that came would park their cars all around the area around the cross and they could listen and I believe they had chairs in rows and rows for those who did want to get out of their cars and get closer to the activities of singing and participation of the evening. It was a fine thing! Large crowds attended. I'm hoping some of you can add to this your memories to this, and also correct me if I'm mistaken in my memory.) I just talked to my cousin by marriage, Tim Schnautz, on the phone last night telling him about this writing and he reminded me of how they would "honk" of the cars when they wanted to shout- Amen!! He also said the reason for the cross coming down was they couldn't get a crew together to repair it, that it was in such bad shape. So that answers my question of why there is no cross anymore...

Ann Weesner King

Class of 1960

Red Hill Cross



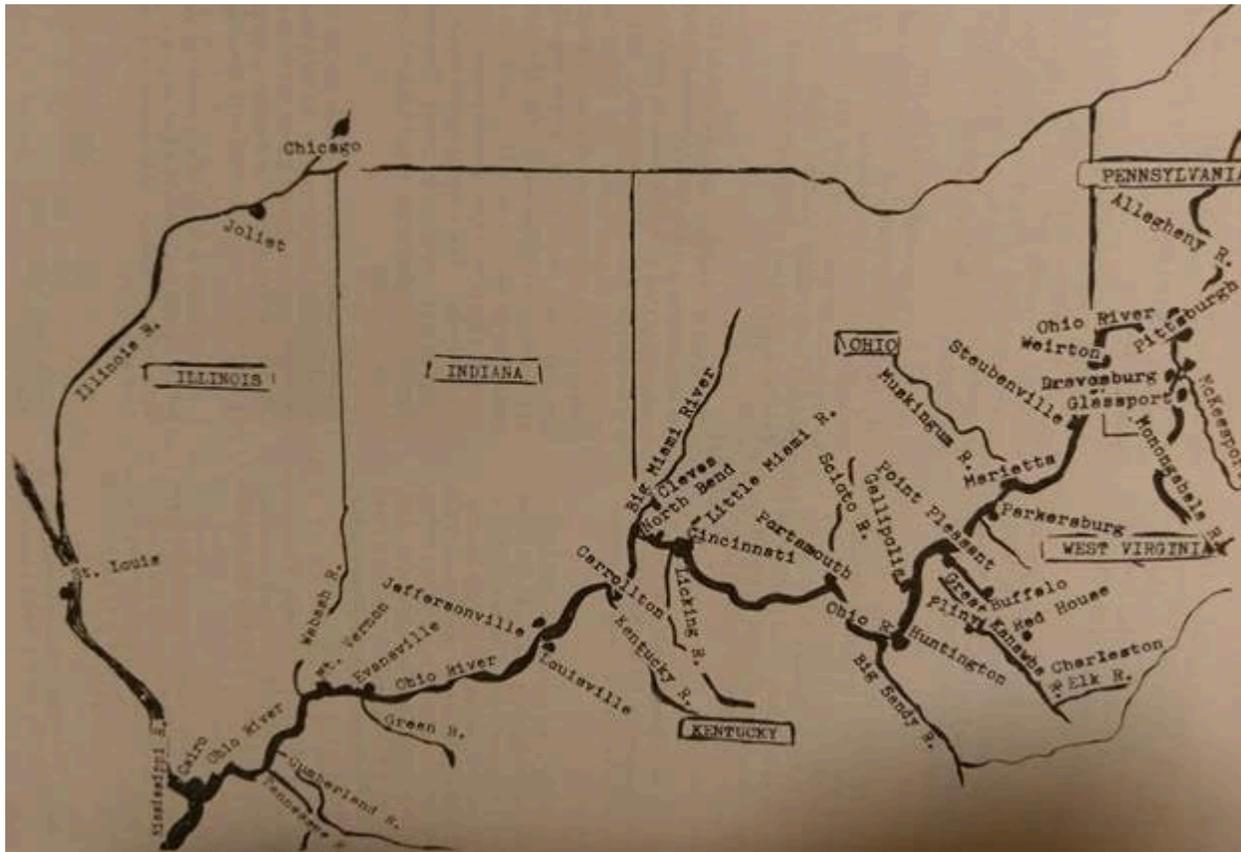
Chris Stoltz

Curtis Stoltz

Curtisstoltz@yahoo.com

I want to express that IL Route 1 and US 50 were major North / South and East / West thoroughfare long before railroad because Shawneetown Bank along the Ohio River refused a loan to the City of Chicago, the railroads began connecting where horse and buggy trails were then the highways were eventually built and US 50 and US 41 became a dominant freight ways and aviation was increasingly getting larger and destinations shorter by railroad and highways are being replaced by air freight industry and the industries we grew up are moved to these aviation hubs and foreign industries who began taking industries to their countries and our area got passed over and the oilfield collapsed and farming was always the bread

and butter



AC

Curtis Stoltz

Sue Rice

ls_rice@mindspring.com

Hi,

The letter concerning the person who found out who his father was not attached, just his message. But, I know his uncle Mike as I am sure most in town do since he has lived there all of his life :-)

L. Sue Rice

Class of

Sam Totten

samtotten@outlook.com

Dear Ann,

Thanks for the Olney Memories, I will send some memories from my 92 + years. I am doing a lot of memories for my Family so I will send some to you later.

GOD BLESS YOU AND YOURS!

Sam Totten

Class of

(Good hearing from you Sam, glad you are feeling better and we all will be looking forward to hearing of some Memories from you!

Ann)

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