

# EHS *Missing Link* '56

Spring of 2025  
John Carr Editor

Website  
[www.ehs56.org](http://www.ehs56.org)

It was just a light, warm drizzle as I rolled the garbage can to the curb and got in my car and headed a few blocks north. When I pulled up in front of Lutheran Memorial Church, I was a little stunned; there were about 15 people standing in the wet waiting for the polls to open so they could vote. With my plans of being first to vote derail, I stared through the raindrops and decided to go to McDonald's for a breakfast sandwich. By the time I had finished, it had cleared up and when I got back to the church there was no line and room in the parking lot. When I got inside I joked with the people running the precinct, they checked me in, gave me a ballot and I proceeded. I knew most of the candidates and there were some running unopposed but I voted for them anyway so they could feel glad about extra morale support. As I left, I joking told the greeters at the door, I didn't know who "Brick" was but I voted for him because it sounded like he belonged on the Soil Commission Board. They laughed and one of them handed me a little round sticker that said, "I voted", and for a brief moment, I felt proud to be an American. Now that I've waved the red, white, and blue...it's time to change colors and paraphrase Hamlet and "get thee to a punary:

If you drink grape soda and belch, what color is it?  
"Burple".

And that dear reader may be the best you get from me this issue.

Lyle Simpson sent me a newspaper article on Art Wittern and the success of FAWN Engineering. It's under the heading of "Ducked Teaching Career, Now a Big Man in Vending", which I forwarded to Tom Lettington; it's interesting so you might want to look it up. It started out as "Hawkeye Novelty Co. by Art, Sr. and Art Jr. became president at age 21. It is now one of the largest vending machine companies in the U.S. Another success story for the Class of '56. Ironically, my grandfather live just a few house from the original shop, if he would have invested; today I could have my own vending machine and not have to go out for "Twinkies".

We have word of losing more classmates since last publication:  
Beverly (Stovall) Wallace 2018  
Lawrence "Larry" Rumman 2019  
Mary Lou (Weisbrod) Nicholson 2023  
Ronald L. Olson 2024  
Annette (Anderson) Audas 2025  
Richard T. Anderson 2025

Diane (Ballinger) Ott's handmade, "Class of 56" hanging quilt that we have displayed at various functions over the years will now be hanging in the library at East High according to EHS principal, Jill Versteeg for present and future students to enjoy. This along with our "Class of 56" scholarship should help instill our name for posterity at "Dear East High".

## THE HILL YOU SAY!

Yes, we will be meeting at the Hilltop Restaurant for our luncheon function.

**Monday April 28<sup>th</sup> 11:30 s.m.**

The grill you say: they have a new chef at Hilltop so you may find some new tastes for you palette. The bill you say: Even though we are there separately, they consider us a group and may automatically add the tip, so check your bill. Deserting the desserts. Hilltop will no longer allow us to bring in desserts, so no cake to take.  
**JOIN US FOR OUR SEMI-FEED**

Here's a list of the faithful who ate together last time:

Carol Adams & John Jones  
Normaa (Treanor) Burke  
John Carr  
Bob Mentzer  
Larry & Karen Watking  
Janet (Bales) & Glenn Douglas  
Jerry Hall  
Bette Lou (Raymond) Neal  
Bob & Connie Trotter  
JoAnn (Brady) Wilson

You should get this in your regular mailings from EHS, but as a reminder:

## EHS Golf Classic

Friday, May 9, Saturday May 10  
Copper Creek Golf Course  
**147<sup>th</sup> All-Alumni Scarlet Celebration**  
Saturday, June 7, 2025  
Prairie Meadows

Why can't you trust an atom?  
Because they make up everything.

"Thanks to everyone who has a part in the East High Link letter."

Mevelyn Richardson

### DOUGHNATIONS

Just because we saved money on the cake at Hilltop, we still need contributions to help keep us "linked" together. All the costs, postage and printing, etc., and two years ago we went to self-sealing envelopes (but Connie hasn't told Bob yet because she thinks it's funny to watch him lick the envelopes). You send – we spend: Contributions:

Bob Trotter

5625 Lakepoint Circle.

Johnston, IA 50131

Telephone: 515 490 4630

Email: [trctrotter@aoi.com](mailto:trctrotter@aoi.com)

We do wish to acknowledge those who support the newsletter:

Carol Adams

Gene Davis

Harvey Thompson

Mevelyn (Woodeerson) Richardson

JoAnn (Brady) Wilson

Norma (Trenor) Burke

John Carr

Lyle Simpson

Roy Treadway

Larry Watkins

Newsletter information should be sent to:

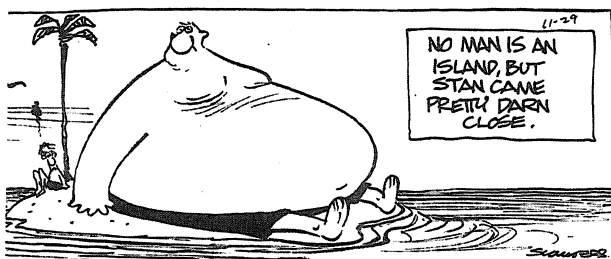
John Carr

2317 E. 11<sup>th</sup> St.

Des Moines, IA 50316

[JohnCarr515@gmail.com](mailto:JohnCarr515@gmail.com)

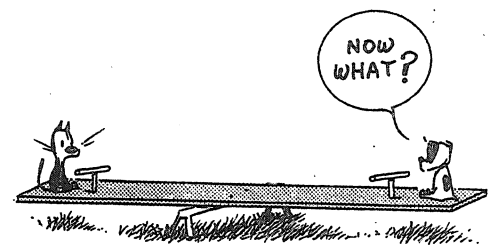
Harvey Thompson sent a "thank you" for keeping the missing link in production.



2025 seems to be off to a strange start weather-wise. At the end of 2024, the Farmers Almanac predicted that this season would be a milder winter than in previous years. At the end of January, temperatures were unseasonably warm in Eastern Iowa. Record highs were set in Waterloo and Dubuque in March. And I have no rhyme or reason why I told you this.



These are supposed to be "The Golden Years of Our Lives", where we can sit back and enjoy the fruits of our labor and watch our children's children grow up so we can be proud. But we need not sit back; we still have a lot to offer. We need to be out doing things. I see the vitality in our people at the luncheons, so I know our class has it. I try to be out every day and be among people and communicate with them in whatever manner possible. I try to make people laugh and have fun for even just a bit. I go places and watch people try to influence other by droning on instead of getting to the point. The attention span of most people our age is 15 minutes, less for men unless there are tassels involved. The important thing is we are still vibrant and have much to offer and give back to our community, our city, and the people around us. There's still time to get involved and who knows, you might enjoy and it may keep you young. If you can go...go! If you can do....do! Even if you're just able to watch... Get some 'me' time for yourself among those that are out there. It keeps you young and alive!



What do you get when you cross a cantaloupe with a Border Collie?

Melancholy baboes/.

What's large, gray, and doesn't matter?

An irrelephant.

Humor is subjective.

And with that, dear classmates, I bid you "adieu" until next time.