

2023 Family Reunion

We're 80, not 18? Really?



*But I feel more like 18 ..
sometimes ☺*

*Are you sure we'll be 80?
that's REALLY old!
Dad and Mom turned 80 this year!*

Prepared by Thomas Lee Palmer
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What's "OLD" ?

In May 2023, Daniel brought Brylee, Brynn and Taylee to see Great Grandma and Grandpa. Gretna answered the door.



Brynn looked at her in astonishment and said, "Oh, I'm surprised you can still walk".

Gretna said, "Well, why couldn't I still walk?"

Brynn replied, "**Because you are sooooo Old**".

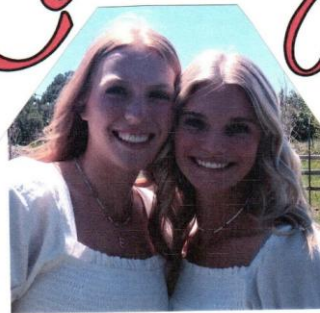
We are how old???



*Did you say we will be
18 years old this summer?*

*No, no, that's our granddaughters who just
graduated from high school this year*

Class of



2023

80 - Really? Really!

80 is the magic number!

80 is the new 60!

80 is twice the fun of 40!

80 is the new infinity symbol.

80 outside/20 inside!

80 reasons to smile.

80 years of love.

80 years of fun.

29,200 days and counting...

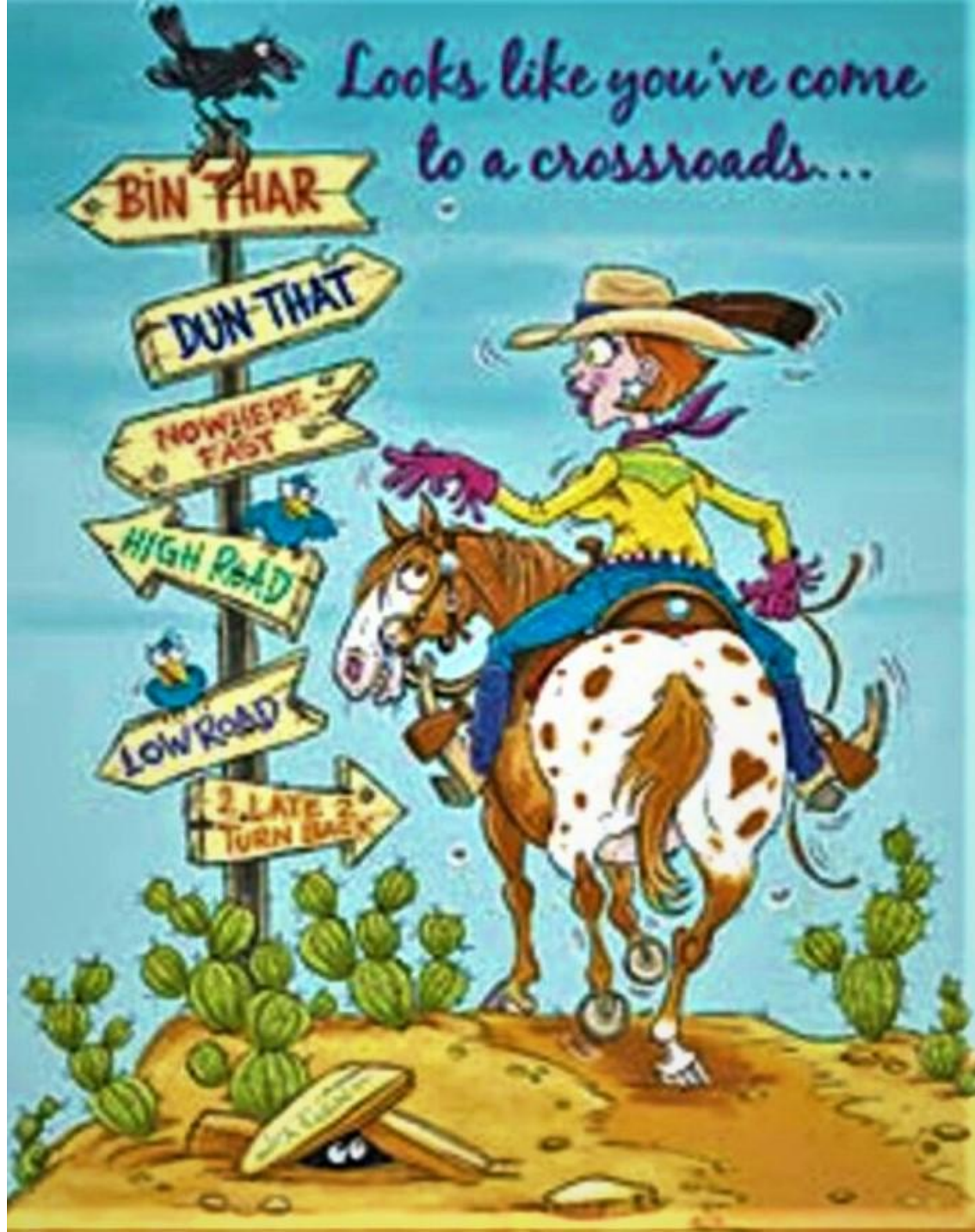
80 = 8 decades of Amazing.

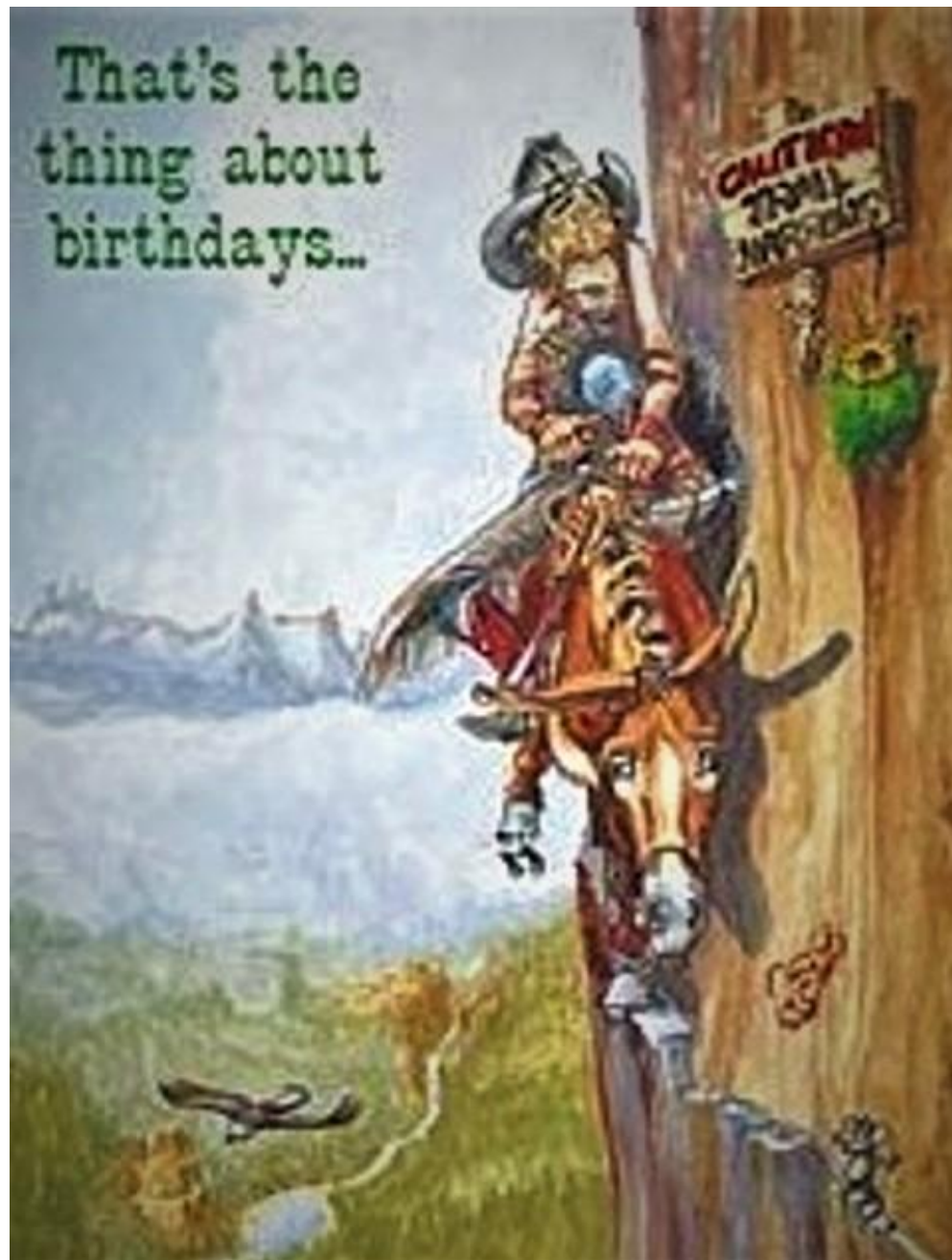
Turning 80 and still going strong.

You might be 80, but you're still a kid at heart.

80 is just another way to say beautiful.

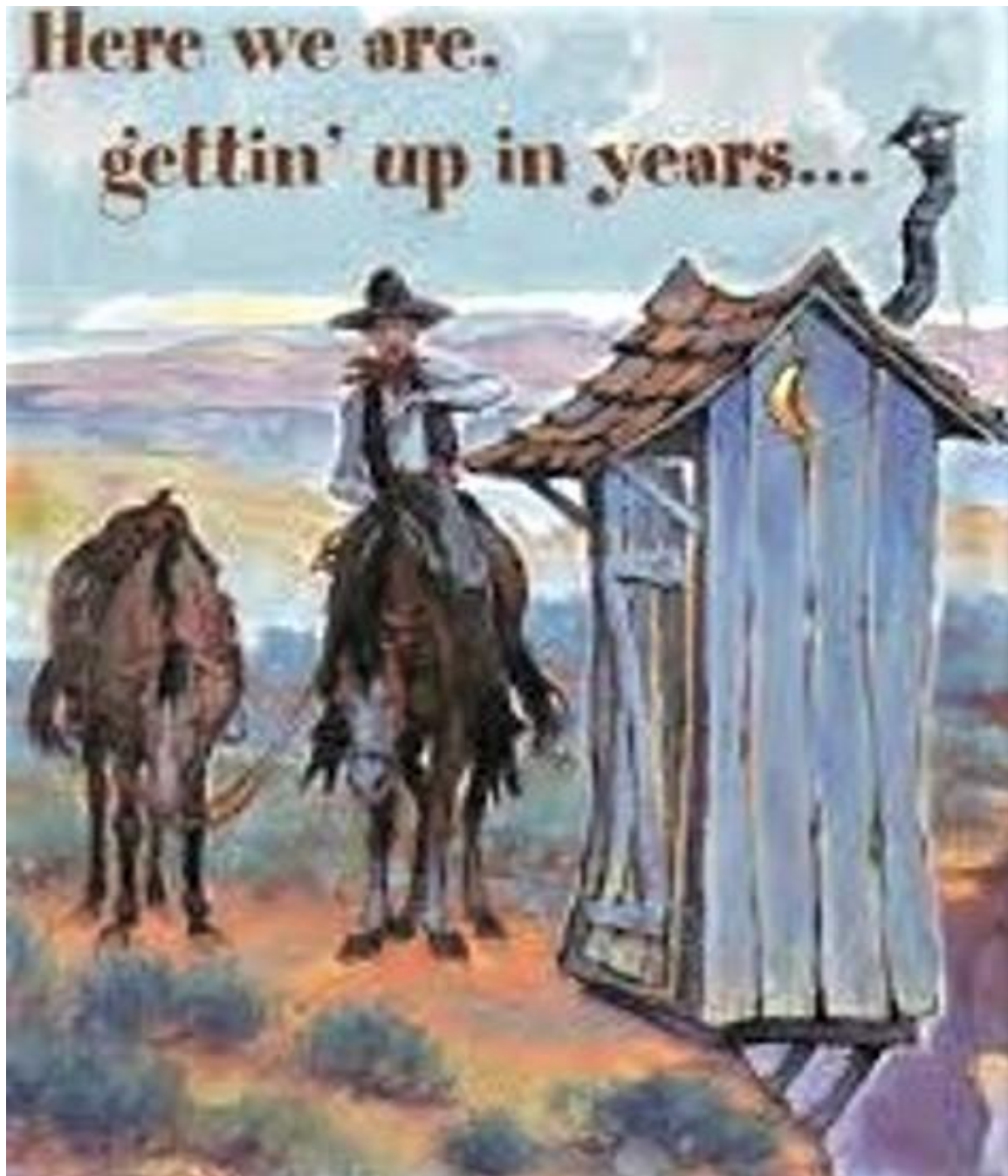
Looks like you've come
to a crossroads...

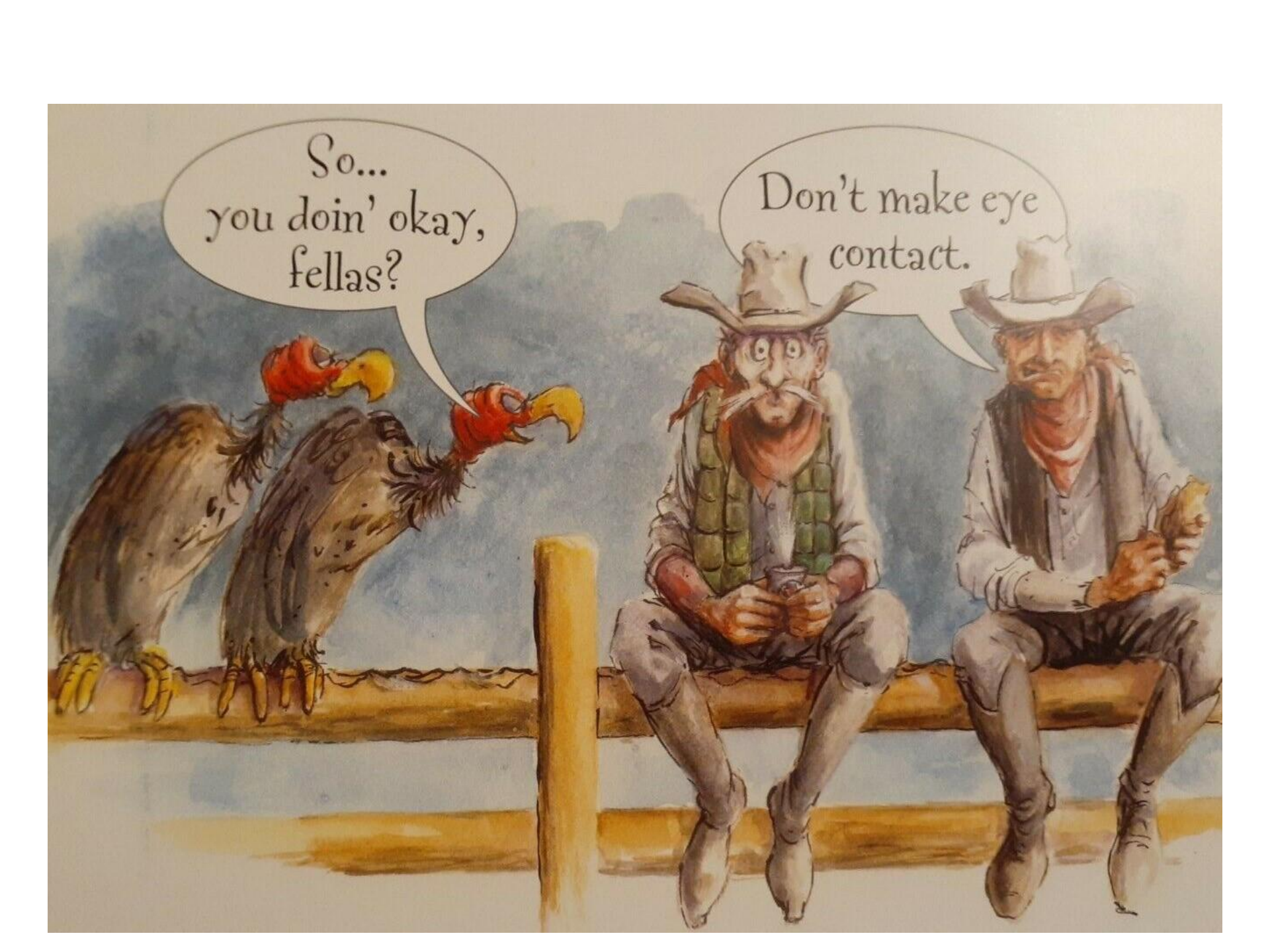




**Caution
trail
ends!**

Here we are,
gettin' up in years...





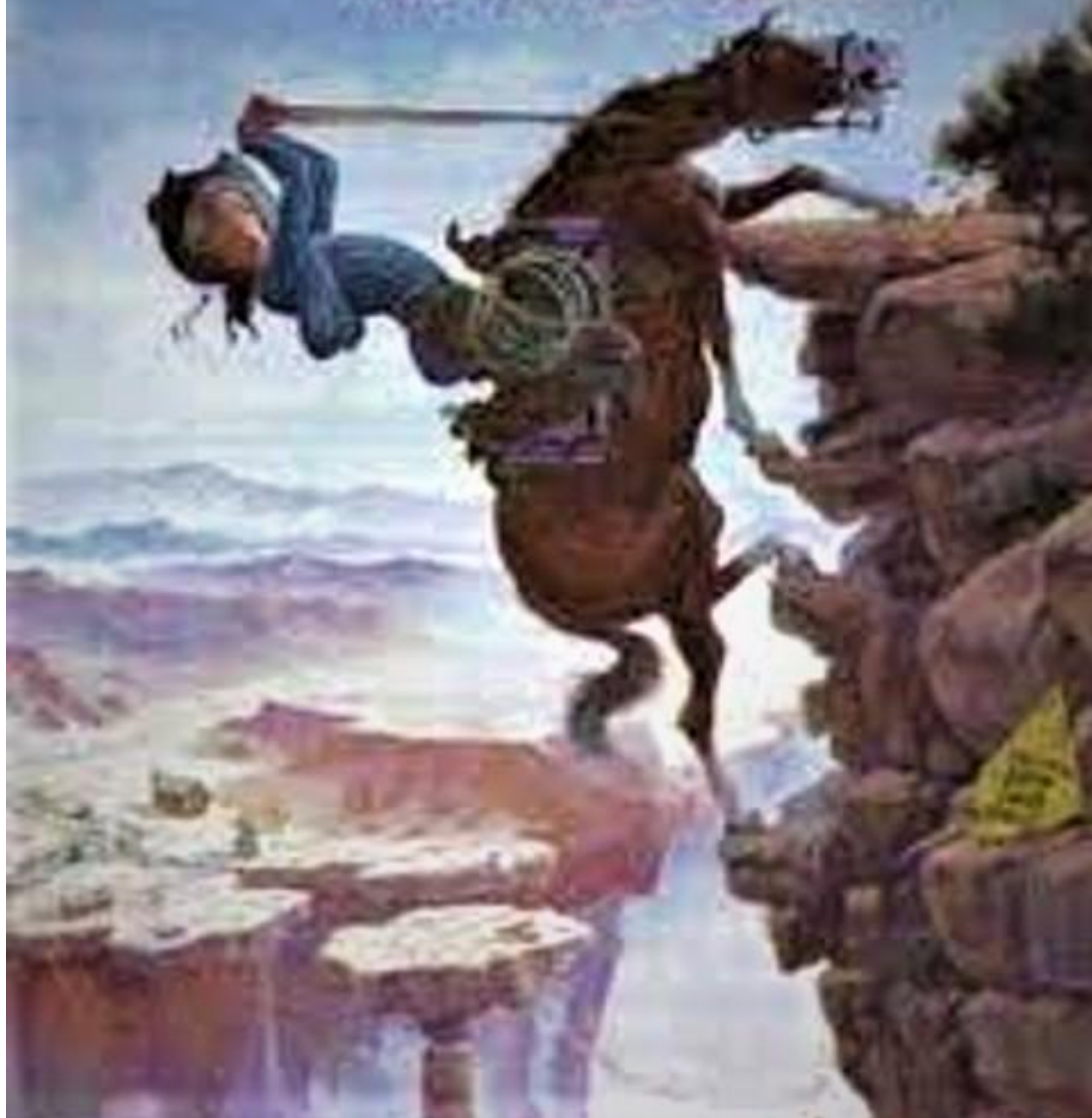
So...
you doin' okay,
fellas?

Don't make eye
contact.

I can't remember
if I lost a horse
or found a saddle!



HOW MANY MORE YEARS
CAN WE GO ON DEFYING
THE LAW OF GRAVITY?



80

Growing old with someone you love is a good thing!



Tom & Gretna

Gretna Ann Phinizy Palmer



A Friend



A Bride and Wife



A Mother

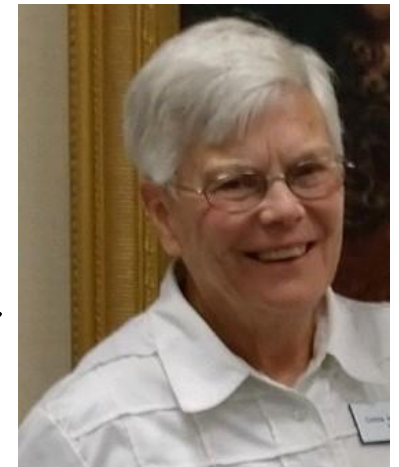
A Grandmother



A Missionary



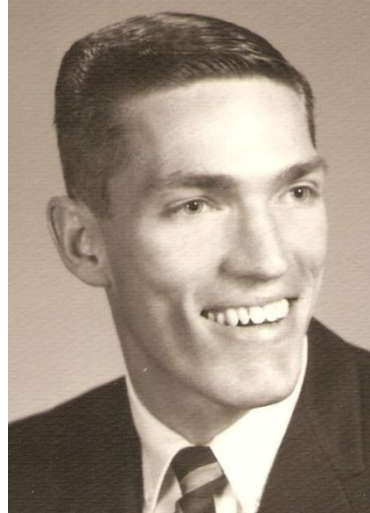
A Temple Worker



Thomas Lee Palmer



A Friend



A Groom & Husband



A Father



A Grandfather



A Missionary

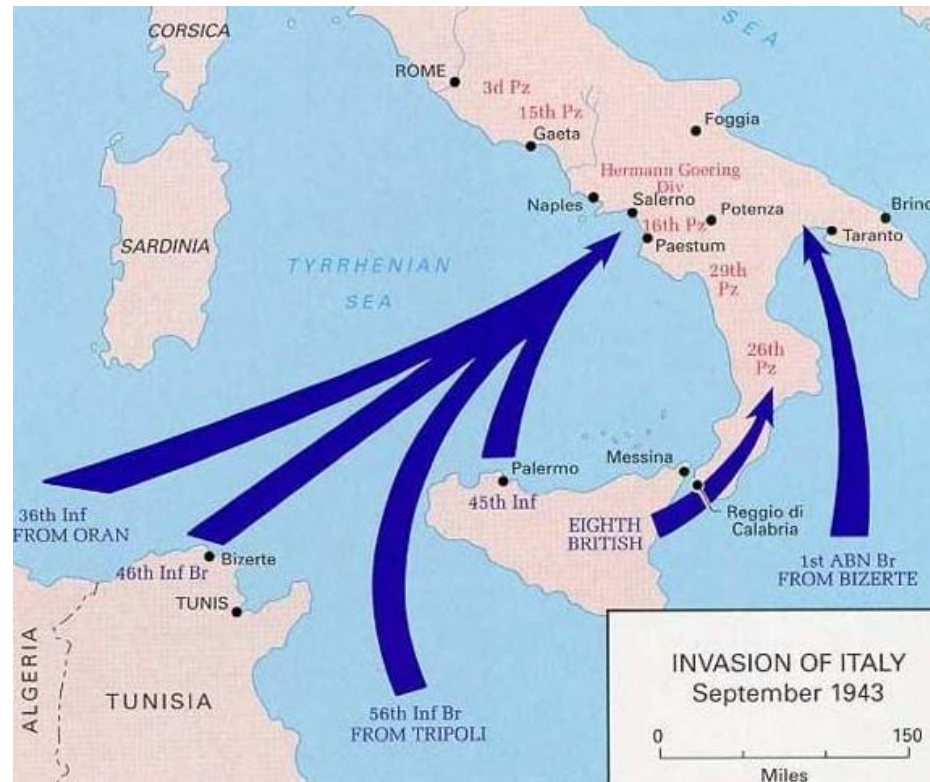


A Temple Worker

Gretna was born in Morenci, Arizona on July 15, 1943

1943 – middle of World War II

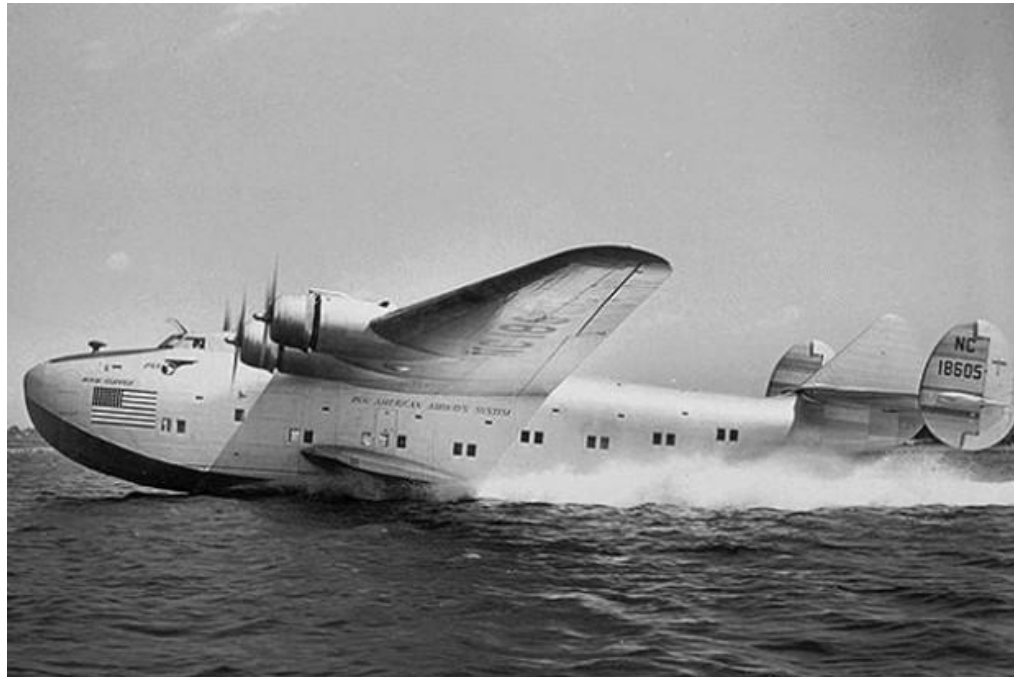
Gretna's Phinizy roots go back to Italy in the 1700s -- It is interesting that in the month Gretna was born, the United States was bombing Rome (doing their best to avoid the Vatican), getting Mussolini removed from office, opening the door for the invasion of Italy by the Allies in September 1943, and leading to the capture of Rome from the Hitler and Mussolini tyranny by the Allies in June 1944



Tom was born in Winslow, Arizona on August 13, 1943

1943 – middle of World War II

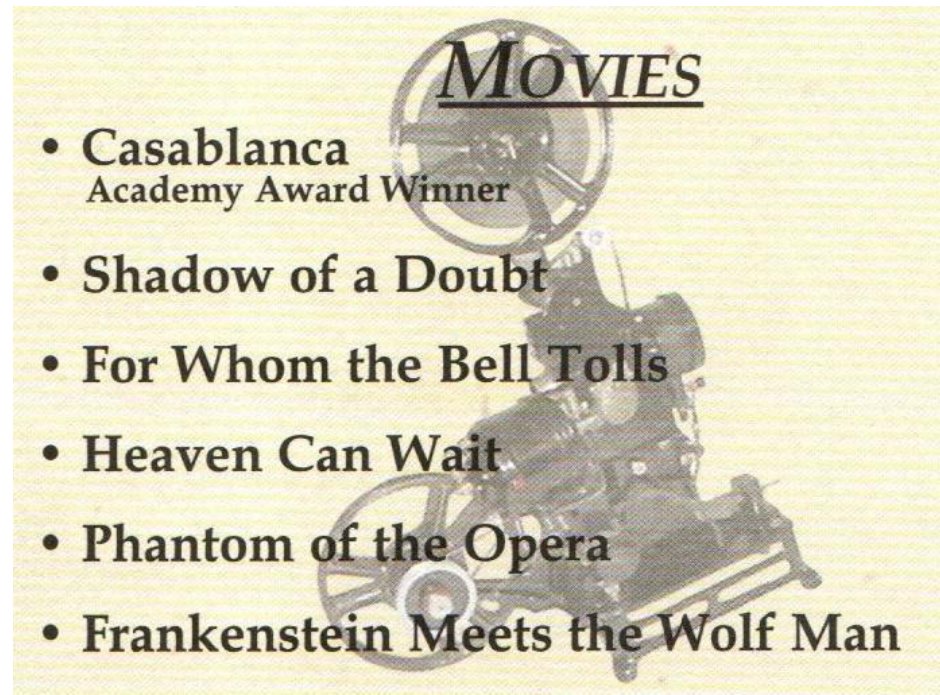
Tom's roots go back to England, Denmark, Sweden, and Germany. In 1943 Germany took over administration of Denmark and Sweden helped Danish Jews escape Nazi aggression. In the month Tom was born, the United States had victories in the Pacific against Japan and U.S. and Allied forces completed the conquest of Sicily in the Mediterranean. By the end of 1943 U.S. General Dwight Eisenhower becomes the Supreme Allied Commander in Europe. President Franklin D. Roosevelt becomes the first U.S. President to fly in an airplane while in office.



1943

Radio Programs in 1943

The Shadow Knows	Gunsmoke
Sherlock Holmes	The Lone Ranger
Bob Hope	Ozzie & Harriet
The Man Behind the Gun	The Quiz Kids
The one, the only . . . Goucho	People are Funny



1943 COST OF LIVING

LIVING

New House	\$3,600.00
Average Income	\$2,041.00 per year
New Car	\$900.00
Average Rent	\$40.00 per month
Tuition to Harvard University	\$420.00 per year
Movie Ticket	35¢ each
Gasoline	15¢ per gallon
United States Postage Stamp	3¢ each

FOOD

Granulated Sugar	75¢ for 10 pounds
Vitamin D Milk	62¢ per gallon
Ground Coffee	46¢ per pound
Bacon	45¢ per pound
Eggs	21¢ per dozen
Fresh Ground Hamburger	30¢ per pound
Fresh Baked Bread	10¢ per loaf

"Born of Goodly Parents"

Paul Bryant Phinizy 1892 - 1934

Clarence Evans Post 1898 - 1978

Nellie Gretna Helms 1896 - 1977

Maud Billingsley 1900 - 1972



Paul Bryant Phinizy & Violet Mae Post



Gretna Ann Phinizy Palmer



"Born of Goodly Parents"

Arthur Palmer 1890-1963



John Lycurgus Westover 1880-1971



Evaline Augusta Gibbons 1888-1985



Maren Adele Bushman 1881-1969



Elwyn Gus Palmer & Ruth Westover Palmer



Thomas Lee Palmer



Early Childhood Years

Gretna was born in Morenci, Arizona on July 15, 1943 and raised in Clifton, Arizona until leaving for college in 1961. She was blessed with a Mother and Father who loved her and raised her on principles of truth and righteousness.



Gretna with her mother



Gretna with her father

Early Childhood Years

Tom was born in Winslow, Arizona on August 13, 1943 and raised in Flagstaff, Arizona. He was blessed with a Mother and Father who loved him and raised him on principles of truth and righteousness.



Tom with his mother



Tom with his father

Early Childhood Years

Gretna was raised in Clifton, Arizona



Clifton, Arizona in 1940s

Early Childhood Years

Tom was raised in Flagstaff, Arizona



Flagstaff was settled in the late 1800s at the foot of the San Francisco Peaks which includes Mount Humphreys – the highest point in Arizona

Early Childhood Years

**Gretna was born in Morenci, Arizona
Morenci, Arizona Copper Mine**



**The Morenci copper mine above Clifton began open-pit mining in 1937
and is now the largest copper mine in the US**

Gretna's childhood home



Gretna loved her hillside home in Clifton, where she, her siblings, and her friend Nedra Webster would climb the hills and cliffs behind the home. It was here that Gretna's love for rocks was born and she began collecting rocks.

Tom's childhood home

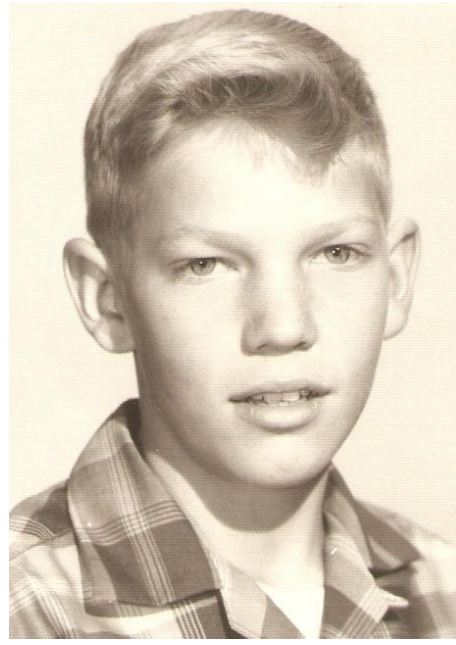


Tom's childhood home in Mountain Dell provided a rural setting for Tom and his siblings where they raised, cows, horses, rabbits, chickens and pigs

Gretna childhood photos



Tom childhood photos



Family in Clifton

Gretna was blessed to have 3 sisters and a brother to grow up with.

Gretna Ann, born July 15, 1943

Pamela Lee, born October 17, 1944

Helen, born December 21, 1946

Paul Bryant, born February 5, 1952

Pauline, born March 21, 1953



Pam Pauline Violet Gretna Helen Bryant Paul

Family in Flagstaff

Tom was blessed to have 2 brothers and a sister to grow up with.

Robert Gus, born April 30, 1942

Thomas Lee, born August 13, 1943

Melvin Jay, born January 13, 1945

Marena, born April 17, 1948



The Temple - early in life

In October 1956 Gretna had the privilege as a 13 year-old to attend the Mesa Arizona Temple to perform baptisms and confirmations for 15 people who had died and needed those ordinances.



EAST VIEW

Date Oct-13 1956
Gretna Ann Phinizy of
Clifton
Morencia Ward Mt. Graham Stake
Acted as Proxy for 15
male female baptisms
At
The Arizona Temple
Mesa, Arizona
Bapt. By Le Roy C. Beach

The Temple - early in life

In April 1955 and 1956 Tom had the privilege to attend the Mesa Arizona Temple a few times to perform baptisms and confirmations for those who had died and needed those ordinances.



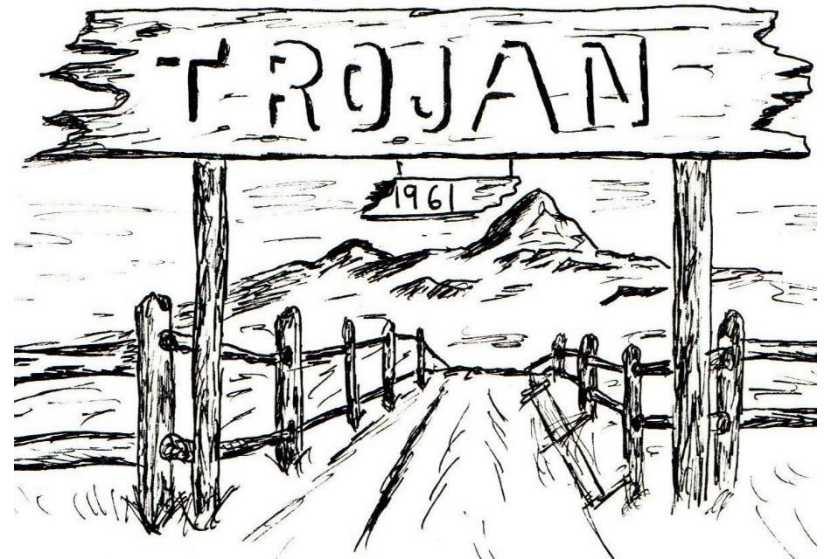
High School Years - Gretna

Gretna was a talented musician, playing the tenor saxophone for the school dance and concert bands and in the Music Festival sponsored by Eastern Arizona Junior College.



High School Years - Gretna

Gretna participated in Choir, Band, Tennis, and other activities. She served on the School Yearbook “Trojan” and Newspaper staff and was Editor for her senior year. She was awarded a scholarship to attend the Journalism Workshop at Arizona State College in Flagstaff.



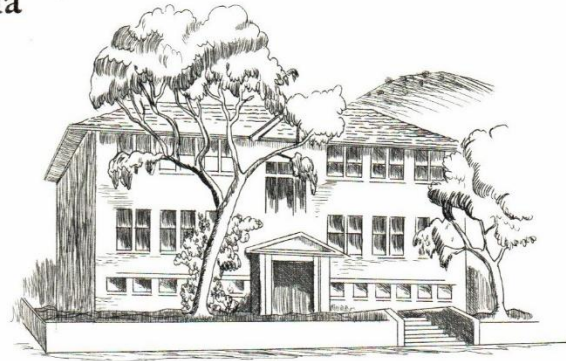
High School Graduation

Gretna graduated from Clifton High School on June 1, 1961

Diploma of Graduation

CLIFTON HIGH SCHOOL

Clifton, Arizona



This Certifies That

GRETNA ANN PHINIZY

*Has satisfactorily completed a Course of Study prescribed for Graduation
from this school, and is therefore awarded this Diploma*

Given this 1st day of June, 1961

H. C. McCullar

PRESIDENT OF BOARD

J. Alex Peterson

CLERK OF BOARD

Margaret H. O'Connell

MEMBER OF BOARD

Eugene P. Lisak

SUPERINTENDENT

Victor L. Menzley

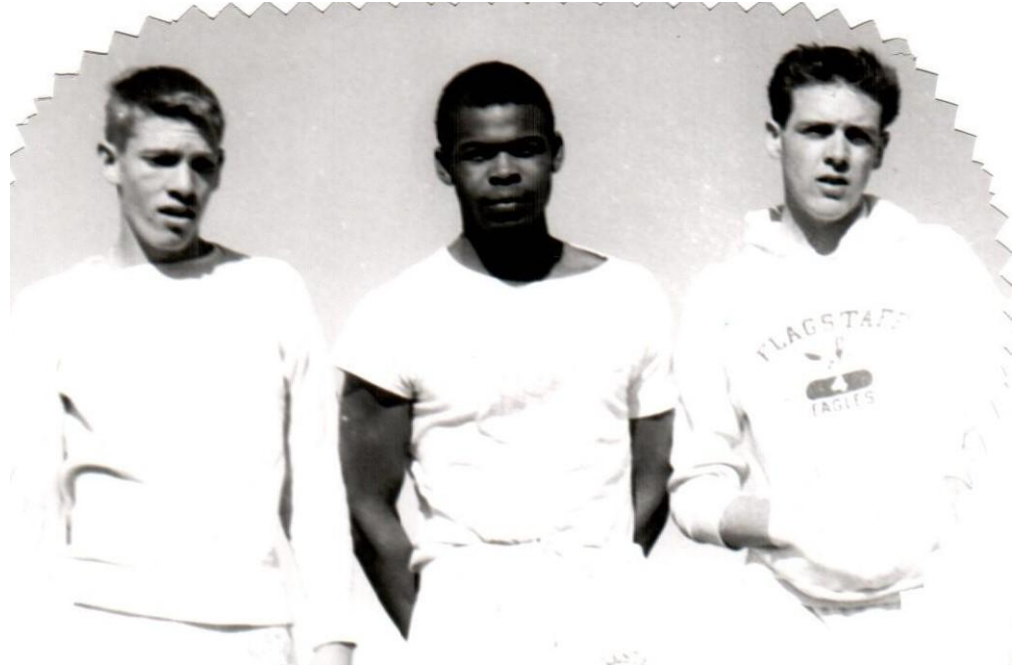
PRINCIPAL

High School Years - Tom

Tom's focus was often on sports



Basketball



Track

High School Years - Tom

In his senior year, as president of the National Honor Society at the high school, Tom was the “acting Mayor” of Flagstaff for a day



High School Graduation

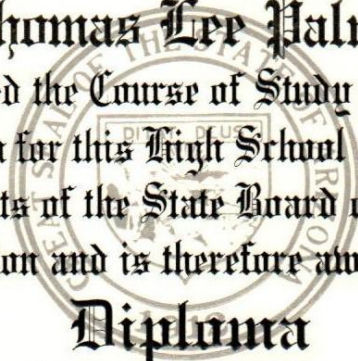
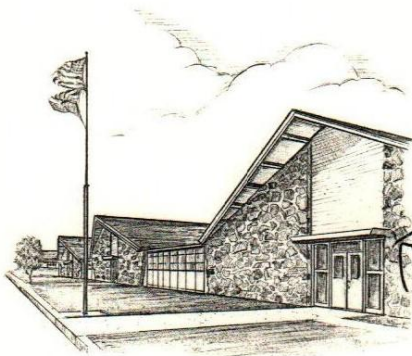
Tom Graduated from high school May 1961

Flagstaff High School

This Certifies that
Thomas Lee Palmer
has completed the Course of Study prescribed by
the Board of Education for this High School and in accordance with
the requirements of the State Board of Education for
Graduation and is therefore awarded this

Diploma

Given at Flagstaff, Arizona, this twenty-ninth day
of May, Nineteen hundred and sixty-one



George Lechner
SUPERINTENDENT

Earl Christensen
PRESIDENT, BOARD OF EDUCATION

Paul Schreiber
PRINCIPAL

John W. Shilly
SECRETARY, BOARD OF EDUCATION

Walter Burke Jr.
MEMBER, BOARD OF EDUCATION

College Years - ASC (later NAU)

Gretna was admitted to Arizona State College in Flagstaff, Arizona for the fall semester 1961



Arizona State College
Flagstaff, Arizona

Fa 61
Resident

Certificate of Admission

This certificate is evidence that Miss Gretna Ann Phinizy
114 7th Street, Clifton, Arizona
having presented satisfactory credentials, is hereby granted admission to _____
Freshman *
* Clifton HS, Arizona - 61 standing in the Arizona State College.
Rank: Upper 1/3 of 43

W.R. Maskey
Registrar

June 28, 1961

Date

Seal

This Certificate must be presented at the time of registration.

College Years - ASC (later NAU)

Tom was admitted to Arizona State College in Flagstaff, Arizona for the fall semester 1961



Arizona State College
Flagstaff, Arizona

Fa 61
Resident

Certificate of Admission

This certificate is evidence that Mr. Thomas Lee Palmer
1 Palmer Ave., Mt. Dell Subdivision, Flagstaff, Ariz.
having presented satisfactory credentials, is hereby granted admission to _____

Freshman *

_____ standing in the Arizona State College.

* Flagstaff HS Arizona - 61
Rank 16-211

W. B. Hensley
Registrar

August 11, 1961

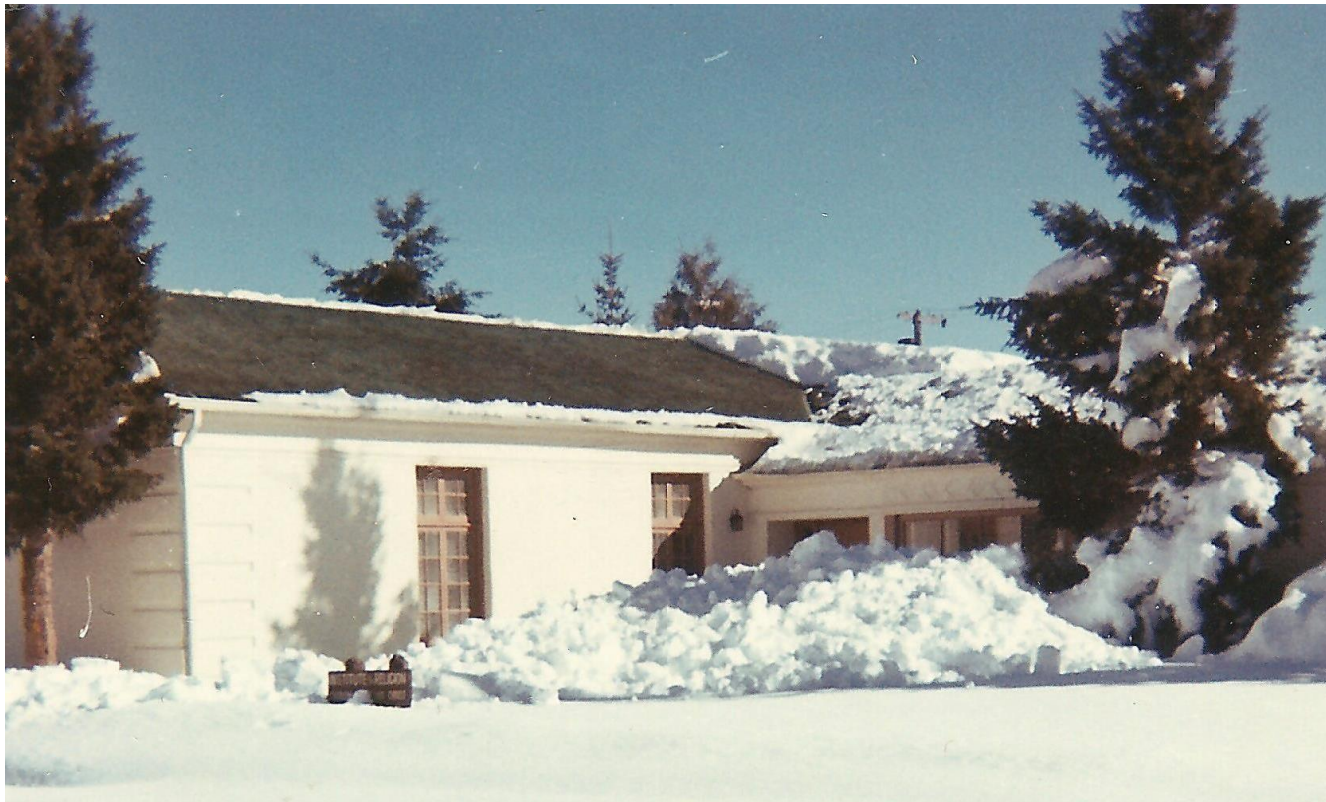
_____ Date

Seal

College Years

**Gretna and Tom became good friends as Freshmen at
Arizona State College**

**Both made many friends at the Institute of Religion through
church, sports, and membership in Lambda Delta Sigma**



The Institute of Religion at ASC was home to the College Ward

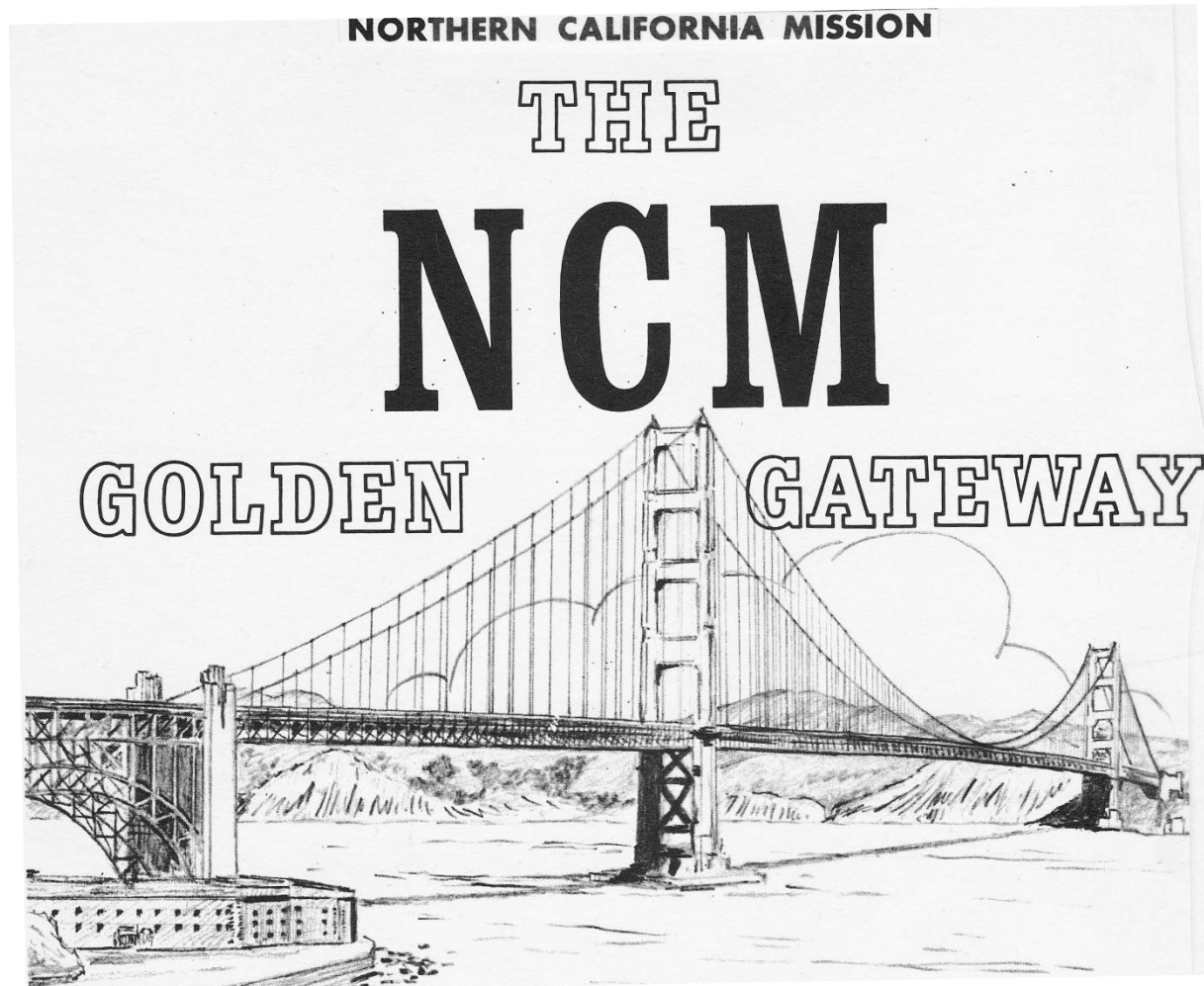
College Years

In December 1961, Tom was involved in a serious automobile accident – his liver was badly damaged, his tongue and mouth badly damaged, and he lost his three front teeth and after three weeks in the hospital with fever as high as 105 had lost 30 pounds.



Mission

In August 1962 Tom left on his mission – he served in the Northern California Mission and returned in August 1964.



ZION NATIONAL PARK

After Gretna's Junior year at Arizona State College - Flagstaff she spent the summer of 1964 working on staff at Zion's National Park.



Back together again 😊

After returning from Zion National Park, Gretna was registering for classes at Arizona State College for her senior year and saw Tom Palmer, whom she had known as a freshman and who had just returned home from his mission. On the first day of classes they sat by each other in an accounting class and she had mercy on this younger (by 4 weeks) toothless farmboy 😊. A few months later they were engaged to be married – the rest is history!!



Marriage

**Gretna and Tom were married in the Mesa Arizona Temple
on June 3, 1965.**



Wedding Reception

**Our wedding reception was held at the church in Clifton, Arizona
Dave Lunt and Elliot Crosby both sang solos at the reception**



First Car



First Home



Nine Children



Nine Children



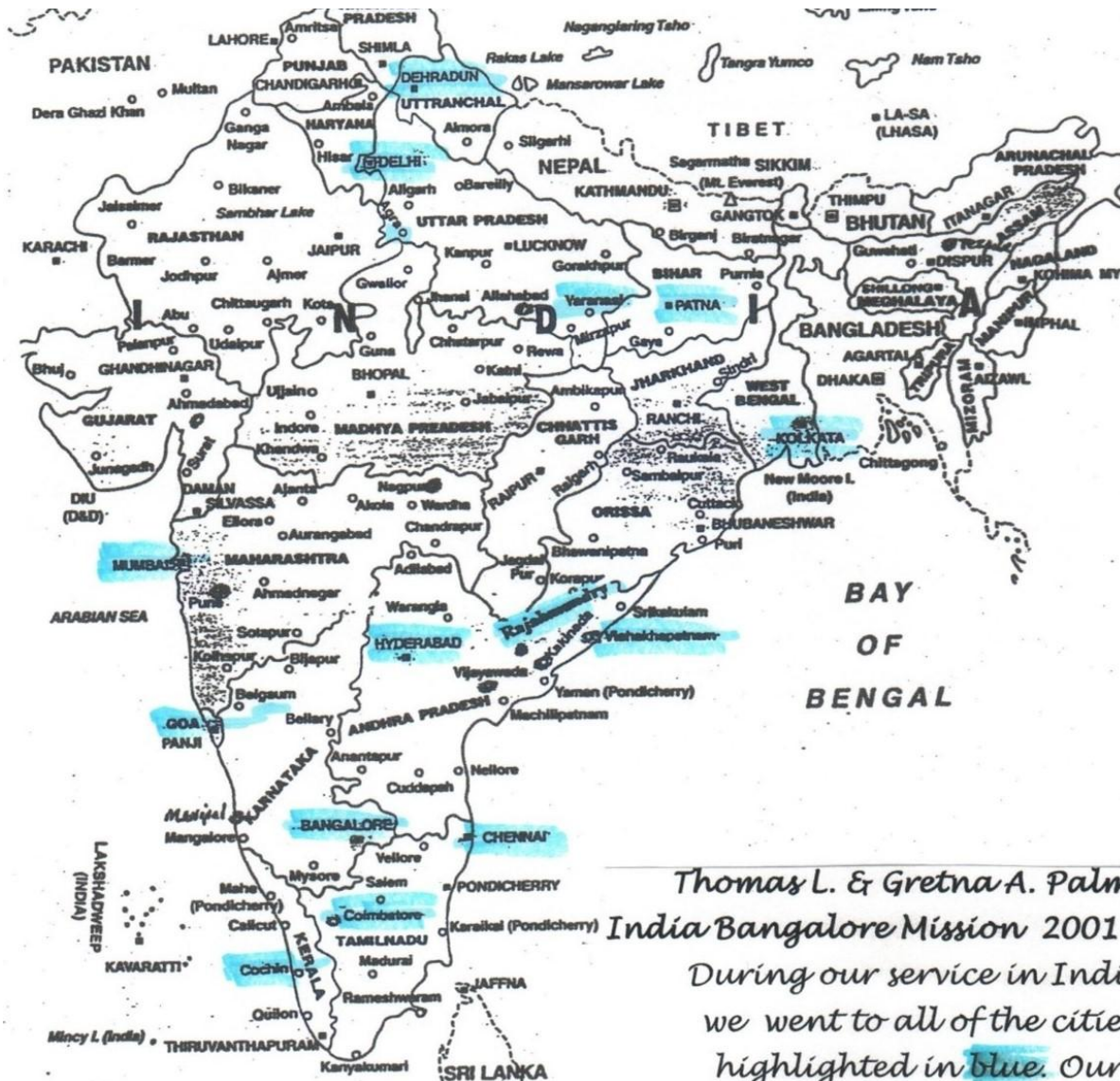
Posterity

Ever growing 😊

**9 children + 9 spouses,
43 grandchildren (soon 45) + 10 spouses
16 great grandchildren
total = 88**

Expanded vision!

India



Thomas L. & Gretna A. Palmer
India Bangalore Mission 2001 - 2003
During our service in India
we went to all of the cities
highlighted in blue. Our

Expanded Vision

Indonesia



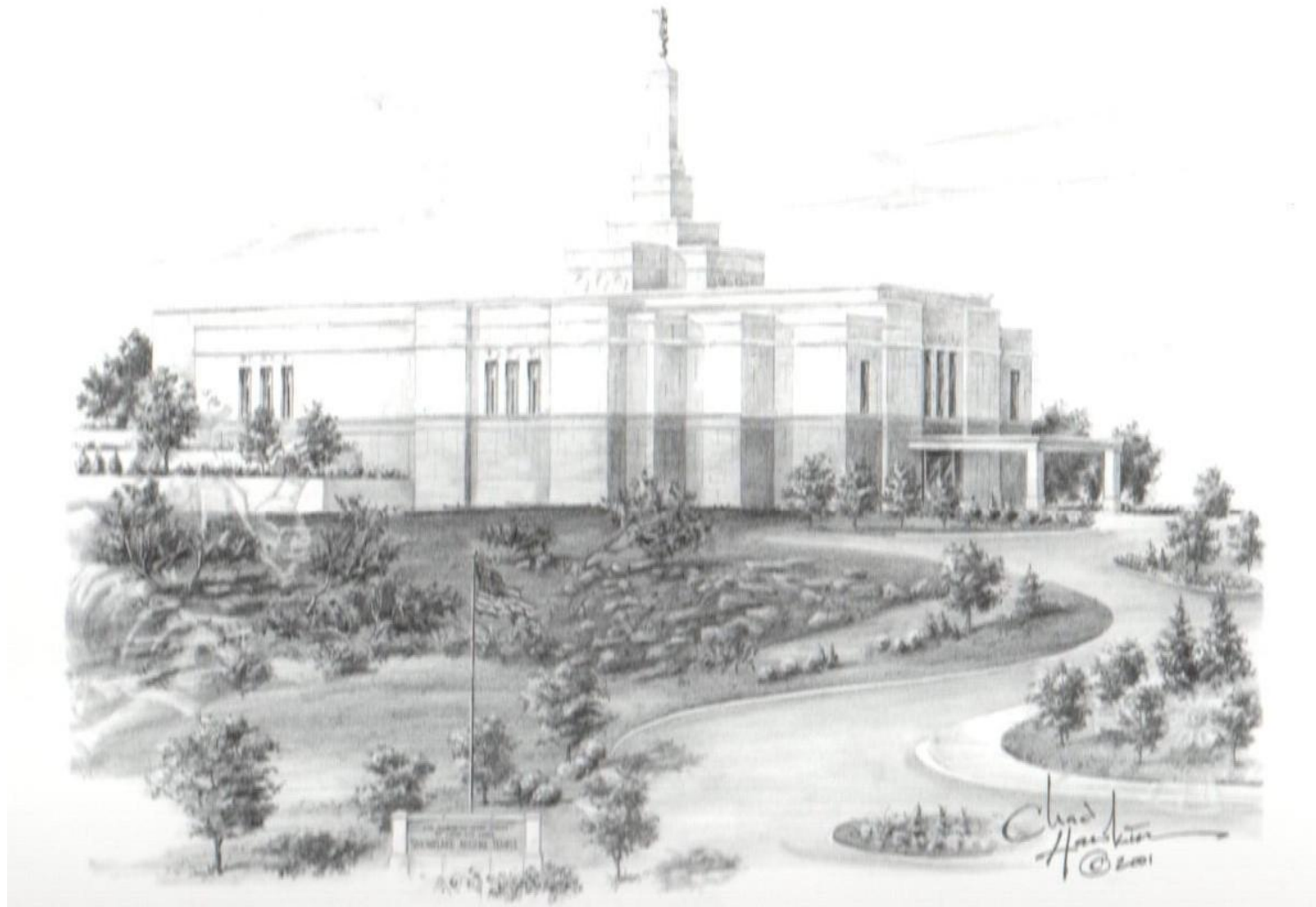
Expanded Vision

Caribbean Area

Dominican Republic, Jamaica, Barbados, Trinidad & Tobago, Suriname, Guyana



Expanded Vision
The House of the Lord
Still serving both Lord and family!



The Blessings of Age

Elder Jeffrey R. Holland recently shared this poem by John Ciardi

*The old crow is getting slow,
The young crow is not.
Of what the young crow does not know,
The old crow knows a lot.*

*At knowing things, the old crow
Is still the young crow's master.
What does the slow old crow not know?
– How to go faster.*

*The young crow flies above, below,
And rings around the slow old crow.
What does the fast young crow not know?
– Where to go.*

We know where to go 😊

**We know where to go for Jesus Christ showed us
the way – He is the Way**

**We know where to go and will go there together so
our family can be there with us forever !**



*Just know this . . . These two old folks
love you more than you can imagine*

