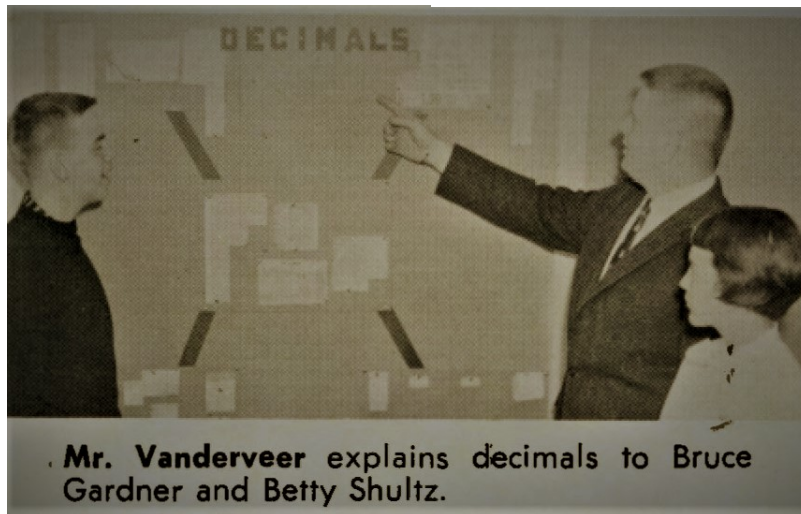


*Biography written by Bruce Gardner in 2013
For his 50th Okemos High School reunion*

1958 OHS Tomahawk yearbook



Mr. Vanderveer explains decimals to Bruce Gardner and Betty Shultz.

1963 OHS Tomahawk yearbook

Bruce A. Gardner
BS Michigan State U. (Medical Tech)
Masters in Management & Supervision

BRUCE ALAN GARDNER
"Moose"
Journalism 3
Varsity Club 3, Sec.-Treas. 4
Class Vice-Pres. 3
Prom Committee 3,4
Homecoming Committee 3,4
Basketball 1,2,3,4
Football 1,2,3,4
Track 1,2,4

Wedded Bliss:

Married X2, current status divorced 6 yrs andcarefully.... looking!

First wife: Dawn Dziuban, NO NOT Joanne...but her best friend and went to St Therese as well! 33 years

Children:

Tara Marie, Nurse Practitioner, Portland, OR
married to PhD Researcher.
2 Kids, 1 son and 1 daughter

Tanya Therese, Optometrist, Boulder, CO
married to Aerospace Engineer
2 kids, both sons

Second wife: Della Richter, 13 years

Children :

Ian Charles, just graduated from HS
Kadie, 9 years old

History:

Went to Europe with the Ellis' the summer after HS graduation and went to MSU in the fall. After graduation from MSU went to intern at Munson Medical Center in Traverse City, MI. Upon completion of internship I took the best job offered which was with the Indian Health Service in Albuquerque, NM. I stayed with the IHS for 30 years, moving up the food chain from a bench tech to supervisor to an Area Laboratory Program Officer (Navajo Area) Ambulatory Care Director of Tuba City Indian Medical Center. I moved around from Albuquerque, Pine Ridge, SD, Ft. Defiance, AZ, Window Rock, AZ and finally to Tuba. This 30 years was awesome, working in health care with our Native Americans! I could have made more money but life isn't always about money...the people, the places, the satisfaction of a job well done. I learned to love the high desert and still miss the Navajo Reservation...it grows on you. Nothing like being at a Pow Wow or sing out in some lonesome spot in a red rock canyon with the sound of voices and drums and bells ringing from the canyon walls! The smell of juniper burning and fried bread in the air. Being good friends with some of the Natives allowed me to be a party to special ceremonies that most whites aren't allowed to see. I can recall a number of times being in a Hogan with maybe 30 or 40 brown Navajo faces around me...the only white face in the bunch.

After retiring from IHS I moved to SLC with Della and Ian. Stayed at home and upgraded our first home together with bath rooms, kitchen, wood floors cabinets, you name it. I learned a lot with the doing and since health care tends to be rather thankless, you don't get a lot of thanks from other health care providers, the hands on of work was satisfying. I went back to work as a Lab Manager in a couple of places here in or near SLC. Even changed my work and became a Safety Officer for a reference laboratory!

I finally got out of the health care rat race about 6 years ago when I went to work for USANA Health Sciences. I started working in Chemistry and then was asked to apply for the Microbiology Supervisor position. So I have been in that role for about 4 of the 5 years. Great place to work, young people for the most part and highly motivated sales force since they are working for themselves. Lots of benefits, full gym, massage therapist, exercise instructors, free and stack weights, bikes, showers, etc. I don't plan of retiring any time soon. I enjoy the work and the people I work

with having a schedule that pretty much lets me come and go as I need to. So attendance at school functions in support of my lovely youngest daughter isn't a problem.

1963 OHS Tomahawk yearbook



Forward Bruce Gardner feeds sophomores Bill Breckenfeld as Okemos rolls past St. Mary's, 62-56.

Hobbies: Camping, trailer, not too much in tents anymore!, cycling, fishing, river rafting (self guided) but I sold my two big rafts a year or so ago...can't do it without some more adult help. Scuba, archery, golf. Stopped playing city league basketball when I was 52 years old in Flagstaff after our team won the league!!

Favorite Places: Tucson, Albuquerque, Santa Fe, Jackson Hole, Grand Tetons, Kauai

Travel: Mexico, Canada, Europe, Hawaii, and USA

Health: Bilateral knee replacement at the same time....thanks BB til 52 yo!! Crushed left ankle with plates and screws from laying down a 650 lb motorcycle!! Overweight but am working on losing. Can't run with the BKR and that was my favorite exercise.

Food: Mexican, Italian, Thai, good old Michigan meat & potatoes

Music: Eclectic from country to pop to classical and even new age.

Literature: Mystery, archeology, anthropology, biography, autobiography, history, science



Reported by Alan Hopkins (1963):
The following was taken from Bruce Gardner's(63) FB page:

"I wanted to share some sad news. For those of you who did not know our loving dad - **Bruce Gardner**- passed away on October 18th. There is a large hole in many of our hearts!! For all of you that knew and loved him I ask one thing.... Tell someone you love just how much they mean to you today!! RIP January 1945- October 2016"

1963 OHS Tomahawk yearbook



Bruce Gardner gets advice from line coach Gary Raymond during the Stockbridge game.

