A Man of Many Parts and Many Places—

Ron Anderson is a man of many parts and many places. Ron was the first of four sons born to Harold and Ione Anderson. Ron’s dad was a printer and when Ron got to Marshall High School, he took printing as his dad suggested. Unfortunately, Ron found printing to be monotonous and decided he would have to look elsewhere for an occupation he could enjoy.

As a ninth grader, Ron got into the algebra class that was taught by Mr. Jerdee. Ron admits that he probably was immature and that he did spend some time “in the hallway” outside the algebra classroom, but he was not prepared when Mr. Jerdee declared, “Anderson, math is not for you. You should not continue.”

As a result, Ron did not take any more math classes at Marshall, but he did take a class that many future engineering students take – drafting. In Mr. Carlson’s drafting class, Ron did very well. He really enjoyed the design aspects of drafting. Mr. Carlson saw that Ron was an exceptional drafting student. He told Ron that he could get him a job as a draftsman in the work program during his senior year.

As a senior, Ron Anderson took classes at Marshall each morning. In the afternoons, he went to work at Northern Pump which was involved in designing equipment for the U.S. Navy. Ron learned about every kind of imaginable pump: from pumps that could operate at 100 degrees below zero to pumps that work with nearly molten metal.

While at Marshall, Ron became good friends with Otto Lausten, Bob Lerfold and Jim Christenson. When they were 16 years old, Ron suggested to Otto and Jim that they should take a vacation trip to Canada. To convince them, Ron told them that “the girls are really pretty up there.”

Otto owned a 1949 Nash that looked like a bathtub turned upside down. The Nash had front seats that could fold down to make a bed. Ron had a pup tent. With this equipment plus their fishing gear, they headed north for the Canadian border.

The first night they camped at Duluth. Otto and Jim shared the Nash and Ron slept in the pup tent. In the middle of the night, Jim and Otto were able to fill Ron’s pup tent with fireflies. Apparently the effect was amazing.

The second evening they arrived at Thunder Bay, Ontario. They stopped to eat at a café where the teenaged waitress asked, “What can I get for you guys?” Ron said, “Three girls.”

The waitress went to the phone and called girl friends. In a short time her Three girl friends arrived in a car and happily showed the guys the Highlights of Thunder Bay.

The guys still remember fondly that first of many vacation trips they shared over more than fifty years. For Ron Anderson, the trip to Canada was to be one of many, many trips beyond the U.S. borders.

Following graduation from Marshall High School in 1955, Ron continued to work for Northern Pump until he, Bob Lerfold and Otto decided to enlist together in the Army. They went to Fort Chaffee Arkansas boot camp on March 5, 1957 (the day after Otto’s mother’s birthday).

After boot camp, they went separate ways. Ron Anderson served as a draftsman designing highways and bridges at Fort Hood. He was able to work with an architectural engineer and a civil engineer and was able to learn quite a bit on the job.

Following his enlistment, Ron returned to Northern Pump and then moved on to Twin City Arsenal for about a year. When the Arsenal workers went on strike, Ron picked up a part time job at Central Engineering that opened up a whole new world.

Central Engineering was involved in designing and installing jet engine testing facilities. Ron did a lot of learning on the job, and despite Mr. Jerdee’s admonition, Ron began taking math and engineering courses in night school at the University of Minnesota.

Central Engineering contracted to install jet engine testing facilities in a number of countries around the world. Each testing facility was eight stories high and several hundred feet long. Ron Anderson was
Contrary to Mr. Jerdee’s judgment, Ron is really quite good at math and enjoys taking college level courses. He regularly attends the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) at the University of Minnesota. This coming quarter geology and ethnic dining are two of the courses that Ron is planning to take.

When asked who were the most significant people in his life, Ron was quick to mention his dad who frequently took him hunting and fishing. Next he mentioned his lifelong fishing buddies: Otto, Jim and Bob who were his classmates from Marshall. He also mentioned the good people that he worked with who were “truthful and honest.”

Ron Anderson is enjoying retirement. When he looks back at his working years, he says with satisfaction, “I took pride in getting the job done right.” Ron is looking forward to many years of enjoying family, old friends, more travel and more learning. He is a man of many parts who has been many places.

Over the next 16 years, Ron was the project manager for setting up jet engine testing facilities in India, Pakistan, Columbia, Taiwan, Singapore, Japan and several in the United States. Usually his wife Vivian and their children Sharon and Brian were able to accompany him. Although the kids did not attend schools in the foreign countries, they did have homework assignments that they brought back with them to Minnesota.

Ron’s work paid him very well. He enjoyed traveling for his company and vacationing all around the world with his family. In retirement Ron Anderson continues to travel extensively. He has been on every continent except Antarctica and has visited at least 78 countries, some of them a number of times. Ron’s favorite foreign country is New Zealand where he loves to roam the countryside.

Ron has taken a number of cruises to Alaska and the Caribbean. He has also enjoyed skiing in France and Switzerland and many fishing trips to Canada where the fish are always plentiful.

Ron & Otto packing up Ron’s comfy Chevrolet for their trip to New Jersey, Washington D.C., NYC., and Harpers Ferry, West Virginia.

Left to right: Ron, Otto, Bob at Fort Chaffee, Arkansas. From there they will complete their two year obligation; Ron in Texas, Otto Ft. Bragg and Okinawa, Bob in the Boat Transportaion Corp and Greenland.
My Experience with Mrs. Leemhuis

Robert (Bob) Parshall
Class of 1951

Reading the interview with Millie Bjergen Caspersen in the January 2014 Marshall Alumni Newsletter brought to mind my experience with Mrs. Leemhuis.

I grew up in a family where no one from either side of the family had ever gone to college. Although I took what were considered college prep courses, I really had no idea of what I was going to do after graduation. I had given some thought to taking a television repair course at Dunwoody Institute and had gone as far as applying to Dunwoody and getting a letter of reference from a neighborhood TV repairman.

Then Mrs. Leemhuis stepped into the picture. During my senior year she called me to her office and asked me what I was going to do with my life. I told her of my possible plans for Dunwoody and she asked me if I had considered going to college. I told her that I really hadn’t thought about it and she said I should really consider it.

Even though at that time it cost a great deal less than it does now, I explained that my parents couldn’t afford to help me financially, so I could not afford to go to college. She asked if I could go to college if I had a scholarship to help pay the way. I responded that I probably could, but that I had not applied to any colleges and it was almost graduation time. She said to just leave it to her. Very shortly I was awarded a small one year scholarship, and after taking some tests, was accepted by the University of Minnesota.

I attended the University that next year (1951-1952), but to be honest, I still didn’t know what I wanted to do, so I did not do very well. I was just not ready for it. So I joined the Navy and spent the next four years “seeing the world.”

I reapplied to the University, was accepted, and started my education again. I graduated in 1959 with a Bachelor of Business Administration, with a major in accounting. I spent the remainder of my career in the accounting field, along the way earning my Certified Public Accountant Certificate, and retiring in 1994 as Controller of the Dakota, Minnesota & Eastern Railroad, in Brookings, SD.

I met my wife at the University, where she earned a Bachelor of Science in Nursing. We had two children. The oldest has a Bachelor Degree from the University and the youngest has a Bachelor Degree from Augustana College.

We have six grandchildren. The oldest has a Bachelor Degree from St. Olaf College and a Masters in Divinity from Luther Seminary. The second oldest has a Bachelor Degree from Wartburg College in Iowa, and teaches math at White Bear Lake High School. The third oldest is more like me. He has an associates degree from UND and graduated from the Cordon Bleau Culinary School. He still doesn’t really know what he wants to do, so he joined the Army where his goal is to be a helicopter pilot. The other three grandchildren are still in middle and high school but based on how they are doing, I’m sure they will be going to college also.

All of this from my meeting with Mrs. Leemhuis all those many years ago. Thank you Mrs. Leemhuis!
The Legacy of Bob and Ardelle Nelson

In *The Prophet* by Kahlil Gibran, the Prophet tells the people, “You are the bows from which your children as living arrows are sent forth.” So it seems with so many of our children and grandchildren.

Bob and Ardelle Nelson graduated from Marshall High School in 1950. Bob and Ardelle met at Marshall, began dating and married a few years later. They raised four sons and five daughters.

Their oldest son Tom went out for wrestling at Mounds View High School at the encouragement of a friend. He was successful and encouraged his younger brothers to go out for wrestling also. Their dad, Bob Nelson, added his encouragement and support. Wrestling became the family legacy.

Tom went on from high school wrestling to college wrestling at the University of St. Thomas. His younger brother Todd followed Tom in wrestling at Mounds View and then at the University of St. Thomas.

The third Nelson brother, Tony, wrestled at Mounds View and at St. Thomas, and went on to coach wrestling as the assistant coach at New Prague High School. Paul, the fourth Nelson brother, wrestled for Elk River High School and St. Cloud State University. He is currently the acting head wrestling coach at Elk River High School.

In the next generation, grandson John Gusewelle wrestles for North Dakota State University, Doug and Alex Nelson wrestle for New Prague High School, Jimmy and Tommy Kittelson wrestle for Blaine High School. Lars Nelson wrestles for the Elk River Youth Program, Joseph Lassegard wrestles for the Spring Lake Park Youth Program, and Tony Nelson wrestles for the University of Minnesota.

Tony Nelson is now a senior majoring in mechanical engineering at the U of M, but he is also leading the parade of Nelson family wrestlers. During Tony’s freshman year, Bob and Ardelle enjoyed returning to Dinkytown and the U of M to watch Tony become an All-American Gopher heavyweight wrestler.

Although Bob Nelson passed away on March 21, 2011, Tony has continued to win and bring honor to the Nelson family name. Tony won the NCAA heavyweight championship in 2012 and 2013. On March 22, 2014, Tony tried to win his third NCAA championship, but lost to North Carolina’s Nick Gwiazdowski. If Tony had won, he would have become the first three-time NCAA wrestling champ in Gopher history. Nevertheless, Tony Nelson is a four-time All-America wrestling champion. The Nelson family legacy goes on. We all have a legacy of some kind that follows us on this Earth when we die. And when we pass, someone else carries our torch to achieve the next level. You don’t need to wonder if it will happen. You can count on it. Give them your best every day. Help them reach the next level. God is good to us!

—Sue LaCombe and Tom Daly
Following is the text converted to a natural reading format:

**Coming Class Reunion Celebrations**

Marshall & Marshall University H.S. Class Reunion Announcements—
**Class of 1959**—June 28th & 29th, 2014

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MARSHALL HIGH SCHOOL *** 55th REUNION OF THE CLASS OF 1959
JUNE 28 & 29, 2014
MAJESTIC OAKS GOLF CLUB
701 BUNKER LAKE BLVD - HAM LAKE, MN 55304
763 755 2140

The class of 1959 has had a fantastic response for their “55th CLASS REUNION”. We are planning a memorable 2 Day Event. If you have not sent in your registration and would like to join the fun, contact a committee member at the bottom of this announcement. MAJESTIC OAKS GOLF CLUB is located north of Minneapolis. Take Highway 65 North to Bunker Lake Boulevard, then 1/2 mile west to entrance.

**SATURDAY, JUNE 28, 2014**

CASUAL GET TOGETHER - LUNCH - Hospitality mixer

“BACKYARD BARBEQUE” Served by Majestic Oaks at 12:30 PM

11:00 AM - 3:00 PM

MAJESTIC OAKS GOLF CLUB
OUTDOOR TENT

**SUNDAY, JUNE 29, 2014**

“BIG EVENT” 55TH CLASS REUNION
Afternoon Hors D’oeuvres Buffet - Hospitality Mixer - Sit Down Dinner - Program
2:00 PM - 10:00 PM

MAJESTIC OAKS GOLF CLUB
FIRESIDE ROOM

Please contact us for a Registration Letter with all other information.
Jean (Sachariaison) Soderstrom  rlsode@wisper-wireless.com   320 283 5816
Patti (Patterson) Foster  plfoster7@cs.com   651 489 0335

WE LOOK FORWARD TO A GREAT REUNION!!! (See page 6 for more information.)
**Class Reunion Announcements for May, 2014 issue of Alumni News**

**Marshall U-High All School Reunion**
Marshall U-High All School Reunion will be held on March 9th, 10th and 11th, 2015 at the Riverside Casino in Laughlin, NV. Mark these dates on your calendar and watch for up-coming information in future issues. Sharon (Butler) Padula ’54, slpadula@yahoo.com.

**Marshall Class of 1954 60th Reunion**
Marshall Class of 1954 will hold their 60th class reunion on Sept 11th and 12th, 2014. If you are planning to attend please respond by Sept 1st and/or direct any questions to: Shirley (Stemper) Rasmussen 763-493-4562, Lyman Swenson 763-441-1481, Sharon (Butler) Padula 763-486-9141. Pass the news to all our classmates.

**Marshall Class of 1955 60th class reunion**
Marshall Class of 1955 will hold their 60th class reunion on Thursday, August 13, 2015. The reunion for the first time will begin in the early afternoon and conclude before dark. The particulars of the reunion have not been decided although the early favorite venue appears to be Jax Café on University Avenue NE. Related reunion activities such as a boat ride on the Mississippi River, picnics, golf, pickle ball and tours are under discussion. We appreciate hearing from members of our class and other classes about good places to go and good things to do. We welcome members of our class of ’55 to serve on the planning committee. “Half of the fun of class reunions is being on the planning committee” says Tom Daly, 952-884-5016.

**Marshall Class of 1959 is planning a 2-day 55th reunion event**
Marshall Class of 1959 is planning a memorable 2-day 55th reunion event. It will be held on June 28th & 29th at the Majestic Oaks Golf Club. See the enclosed information sheet on page 5.

**Marshall Class of 1964 will be holding their 50th reunion**
Marshall Class of 1964 will be holding their 50th reunion on September 19th and 20th this fall. It will be held at the Courtyard by Marriott, 2905 Centre Pointe Drive, Roseville, MN 55113. There will be a Friday night social followed by a Saturday evening casual get-together with a light buffet dinner. Contact person for Marriott room reservations is Ashley Chmielewski @ 651-367-2033. Updating information can be found on http://marshallhighschoolreunion.blogspot.com or contact Jack Beckman at forestlakejack@gmail.com or his business phone 763-784-5922.

**Marshall Class of 1967**
Marshall Class of 1967 says “We plan to have another fun reunion in 2017, and hope that every classmate will mark August 26, 2017 on their calendar and make every effort to attend. A number of classmates who were unable to attend the 45th reunion promised to see us in 2017. We look forward to seeing you there too.” [www.marshallclassof67.org](http://www.marshallclassof67.org) This website is intended to be a continuing work in progress through 2017 so classmates may update their personal and contact information (with their desired level of privacy) and stay in touch with other classmates, in addition to reliving memories of the 40th and 45th reunions.

**Marshall/U-High Class of 1974 will be having a 40-year reunion this year.**
Marshall/U-High Class of 1974 will be having a 40-year reunion this year. Date and location have not yet been determined. But, as usual, it definitely will be very well attended and lots of fun. Top-notch organizer Janet Conger Duff will again be working her magic and I will be assisting. Anyone wanting up-to-date details should me: Scott Watson, 612-927-5154, scottwmswatson@earthlink.net.
Remembering our Classmates—

Marjory Jelmeland Immer, class of 1939, passed away on her 93rd birthday in Burke Virginia, on November, 2013.

Ken Holkestad, class of 1955 in, Zimmerman, MN, February, 2013

Denny Roth, class of 1956 on December, 2013

Bob Hayes
9142 W. Utopia Road
Peoria, AZ 85382

(Address to order a printed copy for January, May issues.)