From: The Vasbys
To: Bill & Shirley (Black) Hartley
Subject: Lincoln High Newsletter - 10/22/20
Date: Thursday, October 22, 2020 6:39:48 PM

Responses to previous topics:

Gene Hafermann - genehafermann@charter.net

1. I don't have a favorite vehicle from way back. They all got me from point A to B. But since 1987 I have had all Jeeps, starting with a Cherokee and then 3 Grand Cherokees. All of them have worked great and I drove the first three over 200,000 miles (one up to 287,000 miles before giving to my daughter who drove it another 15,000 before selling it). My current one is a 2011 with V-8. Doesn't get great MPG, but is a comfortable ride and has many bells and whistles that I enjoy. Being retired, I don't drive that many miles anymore and with currently 114,000 miles in it, barring and accident, I expect to drive it another 10 years.

2. I watch Badgers FB and BB, Packers and some other NFL games of interest, Brewers BB, occasionally Milwaukee Bucks and GS Warriers (esp in playoffs), lots of golf (pro tour and champion's tour), and big event pro tennis.

3. Parents and 3 particular uncles (Bob, George, and Dick … were like brothers I never had) were the most influential growing up. And after marriage my in-laws were very influential (esp related to church and politics).

4. My favorite music has always been men's acapella (most any genre). I particularly like Home Free right now.

5. Favorite HS teacher was Coach Cleworth (fun and influential to my lifelong love

of singing). In College it would be Professor ‘s Clapp and Wolf at UW Engineering School. Also really enjoyed John Clark who was Men’s Glee Club director and Wisconsin Singer’s accompanist.

6. I definitely used my college education my whole career as a Geodetic Surveyor/Engineer for the Wisconsin DOT. Used the knowledge I gained to write software code from processing field measurements and later wrote specs for private contractor software development and then tested their code and ultimately taught users how to use the software tools.

7. My fondest HS basketball memories were playing guard on JV and Varsity with Pete Anderson. But remember more my accomplishments in BB as UW Marathon Center with one game in particular where we beat the best team in the UW Center league in overtime and I was 7 for 7 from the floor (would have all been 3 pointers with today’s rules) including at least 3 in overtime. The other team was so mad they wouldn’t shake hands afterwards and that made it even sweeter.

8. Tylenol with Codeine gave me hallucinations.

9. Love seeing the creativity of Halloween costumes.

10. Covid-9 is scary. Wear a mask, wash your hands, social distance. Stay away from people who don’t wear a mask and away from businesses that don’t require masks and social distancing. Why is that so hard to comply with? I never did frequent bars, so that’s easy to avoid. Am still fearful of flying, but missing my daughters and grand kids in CA.

<u>This week's topics:</u>

1. What was the best kiss of your entire life?

2. Has a teacher ever changed your life? How so?

3. Will religion ever become obsolete? Is it helping to endure 2020?

4. Favorite place to buy candy as a kid.

5. Childhood injury acting up now?

6. What was the highlight of your week?

7. Would you want to know you are going to die before hand or die suddenly without warning? Why?

8. How likely do you think it will be that humans will last another 1,000 years without killing ourselves off?

9. Ready for Halloween? Decorate? Trick or treat? Memories of past Halloweens.

10. Covid. Your thoughts.

11. Whatever else, maybe a topic for next week?

and responses:

Dick Trudeau LHS '64 - dickmerry77@hotmail.com

WILL RELIGION EVER BECOME OBSOLETE? -- As long as humanity struggles with the 2 questions; how did we get here and is there life after death, there will always be religion.

FAVORITE PLACE TO BUY CANDY AS A KID -- As a small child I remember walking downtown with Mom to Schraders(?) Five and Dime. It was located on First Street across from JC Penny's. The candy was displayed in glass bins. The sales person would scoop out the candy and weigh it on a scale. I doubt that I ever was allowed more than a nickel's worth. It seems like the treats we held most precious were those that we got infrequently and in small quantities.

When speaking of childhood candy, I can't help but be reminded of those small black licorice candies molded in the form of a black child. They were universally known as "N----r Babies". Looking back, it's hard to imagine how a candy manufacturer ever dreamt that there would be a market for candy in the form of a black baby. Apparently, we were too civilized to eat white candy babies. Nonetheless, we ate those black candies, without thought, until they disappeared from the candy stores. Some would argue that we recognized and corrected the insensitivity of those days. Others insist we have a way to go.

DYING WITH OR WITHOUT WARNING -- A depressing thought, but I'd opt for going without warning. However, I do ask myself this question: If the Almighty

gave you a choice of living a guaranteed number of years vs. taking your chances on the unknown (you might go tomorrow or it could be 30 years from now) what is the minimum guaranteed number of years you'd settle for versus rolling the dice? I'd take a guarantee of 16 years. After the age of 90 life can't be all that much fun anyway.

HUMANITY LASTING ANOTHER 1000 YEARS -- I think there will be humans here 1000 years from now, but we will continue killing each other off in the meantime. Yet another depressing thought!

Lenore Haferman - lenorehaferman@yahoo.com

1.best kiss would be at my wedding.

3. I think that more and more people will stop using religion.

6. I got my husband to give away most of his suits (he is trying to retire) that means part of a closet done

7. I do not need warning, but I hope it is very fast.

10 I think just about every one will get it at some level. I know people who have had it , and after about 7 days feel good again.

Barbara Cammack - barbaracammack@hotmail.com

Of course we would likely wish to die quickly but we know death happens to everyone so no sense dwelling on it. The hard part for me is that we shoot horses but let humans linger with pain and awful distress/sicknesses. I do have a strong faith but lean towards right to die when life is so fragile. So many have suffered alone with Covid and that only brings questions again. I have no name to put on a kiss but remember several which were on the cheek and totally unexpected by friends-male and female. The surprise was just NICE.

Chuck Hinners - chuck@crgfinancialconsulting.com

8. This question has a lot in common with actuarial science which is based on probability and statistics.

Most of us reading this are 73 or 74. Life expectancies for our ages are:

73 Female 20.2

73 Male 17.9

74 Female 19.4

74 Male 17.1

These numbers are based on experience of life insurers

Life expectancy is the number of years at which 50% of a given group will have died

The numbers above assume each member of the age cohort does not smoke and qualifies for the lowest life insurance rates.

Life expectancy drops by about 3 years for smokers who qualify for the lowest insurance rates

For smokers who qualify for the highest rates life expectancies plummet to between 7 and 9 years

Using the same math demographers have explored the question of survival of the human race.

Insurance companies used 1941 and 1958 mortality tables as late as 1974. These assumed all insured would die before age 100.

Now the probability of survival until age 100 is 10% for women and 3% for men in our age group.

Biotechnology will enable us to live longer if cardiac disease and cancer can be cured by nanotechnology and gene therapy rather than treated with drugs now in use.

Read Ray Kurzweil's book The Singularity is Near for more information. Interesting to note that Google hired Kurzweil 12/17/2012 as director of engineering.

Insurers have now extended their mortality table to age 120. In another 46 years I believe living to that age will be more probable than survival to age 100 now.

OK so with this background, what about the probability that humans will survive until 3020?

J. Richard Gott III is a Louisville native, 3 months and three days older than me and has postulated that the life expectancy of Homo Sapiens may be just 760 years.

I'll leave several references for readers interested in his theory.

https://www.nzherald.co.nz/world/the-doomsday-calculation-author-reckons-only-760-years-left-for-human-race/4R2BY2MWWKTCV54KBOJ5VH3ONE/

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Doomsday_argument