

**From:** [The Vasbys](#)  
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## *Lincoln High Newsletter*

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Hi Kent and all.

I have just spent two months in Rapids cleaning my parents house as they both are in a nursing home in Fond du Lac (where Brian lives) and are together again after 4 months of separation. The house on Sampson St. that dad built in 1951, and where we all grew up, is for sale with Dave Kersten at Century 21 and looks pretty good, if I must say. Since I retired the week before I came, I am anxious to go back to Sacramento and see what this "retired" business is all about. Sooo, ready for the road trip.

If anyone's folks know Harold and Dorothy, their new address is 517 E. Division Street, Fond du Lac, WI 54935 and dad's cell is 715-323-0292. Dad at almost 93 is of perfect mind, (got his driver's license last summer), though Mom has mid-stage dementia. He has left hand paralysis, so can't walk with his walker anymore, but their spirits are good. After 66 years of marriage, their reunion yesterday was so tender. Thanks for all of the support and help from many of you here in Rapids. I hope to be back someday.

Meanwhile, I did find my Immanuel School marbles and reminisced fondly of the days playing "pot" in the blacktop behind the corner of the building..we were allowed to do that.

And I do recommend the brats at Checkers. They were really good at least half the time. I am still a fan of the Little Pink breakfasts and the pecan waffles at the Olympic.

Take good care.

**Barbara Thalacker '64** [bthalacker@comcast.net](mailto:bthalacker@comcast.net)

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**Marcie (Basler) Ortscheid** [Marcie.ortscheid@KI.com](mailto:Marcie.ortscheid@KI.com) writes:

Kent, thanks for the great work on the letter..you do a great job..I am still having fun on my Harley, I told my grandson that when I get to old to ride he can have it, so now he says grandma are you to old.. I said as long as grandma can throw her leg over i'm not to old..In May my 2 brothers Wayne and Bill Basler and my sister Hollie Fluno and I went out to Idaho and Montana for a week, rented a car and just had a great time.. We laughed until we cried, and to think we use to just hate each other when we were kids at home.. In Sept. my friend and I are going on a Alaska cruise, have never been there so am looking forward to that. I still work as a corp. travel agent and really enjoy my job. About 2 yrs ago I got into an eat healthy and exercise program and I do like the way it makes me feel and look . Everyone write in and let us know what your doing so we do not lose this great letter..

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### **The Wisdom of Ivan, the cable guy.....**

**1. A day without sunshine is like night.**

2. On the other hand, you have different fingers.
3. 42.7 percent of all statistics are made up on the spot.
4. 99 percent of lawyers give the rest a bad name.
5. Remember, half the people you know are below average.
6. He who laughs last, thinks slowest.
7. Depression is merely anger without enthusiasm.
8. The early bird may get the worm, but the second mouse gets the cheese in the trap.
9. Support bacteria. They're the only culture some people have.
10. A clear conscience is usually the sign of a bad memory.
11. Change is inevitable, except from vending machines.
12. If you think nobody cares, try missing a couple of payments.
13. How many of you believe in psycho-kinesis? Raise my hand.
14. OK, so what's the speed of dark?
15. When everything is coming your way, you're in the wrong lane.
16. Hard work pays off in the future. Laziness pays off now.
17. How much deeper would the ocean be without sponges?
18. Eagles may soar, but weasels don't get sucked into jet engines.
19. What happens if you get scared half to death, twice?
20. Why do psychics have to ask you your name?
21. Inside every older person is a younger person wondering, 'What the heck happened?'
22. Just remember -- if the world didn't suck, we would all fall off.
23. Light travels faster than sound. That's why some people appear bright until you hear them speak.
24. Life isn't like a box of chocolates. It's more like a jar of jalapenos. What you do today, might burn your butt tomorrow.

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## **Before you go!**

**The elderly parking lot attendant wasn't in a good mood!**

**Neither was Sam Bierstock. It was around 1 a.m., and Bierstock, a Delray Beach, Fla. , eye doctor,**

business consultant, corporate speaker and musician, was bone tired after appearing at an event.

He pulled up in his car, and the parking attendant began to speak. "I took two bullets for this country and look what I'm doing," he said bitterly

At first, Bierstock didn't know what to say to the World War II veteran. But he rolled down his window and told the man, "Really, from the bottom of my heart, I want to thank you."

Then the old soldier began to cry.  
"That really got to me," Bierstock says.

Cut to today.

Bierstock, 58, and John Melnick, 54, of Pompano Beach - a member of Bierstock's band, Dr. Sam and the Managed Care Band - have written a song inspired by that old soldier in the airport parking lot. The mournful "Before You Go" does more than salute those who fought in WWII. It encourages people to go out of their way to thank the aging warriors before they die.

"If we had lost that particular war, our whole way of life would have been shot," says Bierstock, who plays harmonica. "The WW II soldiers are now dying at the rate of about 2,000 every day. I thought we needed to thank them."

The song is striking a chord. Within four days of Bierstock placing it on the Web, the song and accompanying photo essay have bounced around nine countries, producing tears and heartfelt thanks from veterans, their sons and daughters and grandchildren.

"It made me cry," wrote one veteran's son. Another sent an e-mail saying that only after his father consumed several glasses of wine would he discuss "the unspeakable horrors" he and other soldiers had witnessed in places such as Anzio, Iwo Jima, Bataan and Omaha Beach. "I can never thank them enough," the son wrote. "Thank you for thinking about them."

Bierstock and Melnick thought about shipping it off to a professional singer, maybe a Lee Greenwood type, but because time was running out for so many veterans, they decided it was best to release it quickly, for free, on the Web. They've sent the song to Sen. John McCain and others in Washington.

Already they have been invited to perform it in Houston for a Veterans Day tribute - this after just a few days on the Web. They hope every veteran in America gets a chance to hear it.

**CLICK THE LINK BELOW TO HEAR THE SONG AND SEE THE PICTURES:**

**WWII/KOREA - <http://www.managedmusic.com/Music/PlayBeforeYouGo.php>**

**VIETNAM - <http://www.managedmusic.com/php/BYGIndex.php?page=playBYGVN>**