

**Tom Applebaum M70**

I spoke with Roger Durant today; he's living in a retirement community in Redding.

The guy's 91 and as sharp as ever! He was such a positive influence on so many of us...

glad he's still on the planet and enjoying life.

**Lisa Douglas M71**

There is still a wild side to all official members of the Orinda Brat Pack of which you and I

are always members along with all the original Orinda families we know!!

**Vince Campanile M61**

It is sad to me that Halloween became such a degraded get together in Sleepy Hollow.

For me and my friends it was a place to gather and have fun, some drinking alcoholic beverages and just being loud. No cops called, they were not needed.

P.S. my friends and I were not imbibing in the drinking. We actually did not like the taste of alcohol.

**Hal Keenan M72**

We weren't the "Bubble wrap" kids that we see today.

I thought Halloween antics like that were normal back then.

Parents these days are shocked when I tell them about the Halloweens I participated in when I was a kid.

I remember one story about how some kids connected a chain to Boysen's fence and hooked the other end to a cop car.

I guess you know what happened when the cop went after someone.

**Mark Lucas M70**

Orinda in the '60s and '70s was such a strange protected microcosm.  
A bit of Mayberry in the middle of Vietnam and Civil Rights Movements.

At that time it was easy to either hitch hike or jump a Greyhound  
and you were soon in the Haight or the People's Republic of Berkeley.  
We were at the cusp of many historic movements and only now  
so many years later can we fully recognize what we witnessed or were part  
of.

Please continue your good work. You are stirring some memories.

**Deirdre McKee M64**

While interesting, your memories of growing up in Orinda, though  
somewhat similar to mine,  
are then again very different. I grew up at the top of El Toyonal and went to  
the Park Pool.

Most of us did not get in trouble in school.. My brother and sister went to  
Ivy League schools  
and basically left Orinda when they graduated from high school.  
We made homes outside of Orinda, mostly in different states.

Life began after Orinda and after high school.  
I'm so glad you are keeping up the ties for those who keep attending these  
reunions.

Life seemed idyllic in Orinda, but when you looked close inside many  
families,  
they had problems families all over the world have.

**Dave Schindler M67**

Jerry Texdahl and I used to play Golf together and on the #4 Hole at Tilden Golf Course he used to cut the corner by driving out of bounds and then slicing back in! For a birdie!

The biggest difference at Miramonte High from then to now is that there were no girls wearing "Birkas" and nobody ever wore "hoodies"

I didn't even know there was a religion called "Islam",

And now, us Americans are always on our modern day Crusades !

Most of us baby boomers have somehow acquired fabulous retirement incomes from work pensions, real estate, Inheritance, disability or social security.

**Chris Slattery M67**

I really enjoy your memoirs, Jim. It all feels so familiar, but at the same time, another lifetime. Nice writing.

**John R Burr M74**

This is really fun to read! I fully intend to buy a ticket and show up for a while before I have to take off.

**Jacquie Parker M66**

I want to let you know how much I enjoy reading your little vignettes. They, of course, stimulate memories of my own, and tempt me to write of them.

I HAVE attended a couple of Reunions, and felt entirely welcomed by the people who remembered me.

**Lisa Dyson M73**

I enjoy reading your reminiscences of Orinda. High school was not my most favorite of times,  
but occasionally I do look back on some of it with fondness.

When I was ten my family moved close to the Orinda Country Club. At ten years old, I thought we had moved to the poor side of town, because there were no sidewalks in north Orinda, just very old, narrow little country roads. We rode our bikes everywhere. We never worried about personal safety. Things were pretty idyllic.

Not to venture into politics, but I believe it was Ronald Reagan who said something to the effect that all great change in America begins at the dinner table,  
emphasizing the importance of the family unit as the place where fundamental ideas  
and values are shared.

If the phone rang at dinner, we didn't answer it.

I think Orinda had much more of a small town vibe then.  
Orinda had everything from families with farm animals in their backyards to families that had servants in their house, and everything in between.  
We all grew up together and went through the public school system.

**Bill Loughman M65**

Thanks very much. Will see you at the reunion.  
Our various memories of Orinda in the 1950's and 1960's could generate a thousand page book  
about a time and place that is the stuff of dreams.