

## High School Class of 1947

### **Norma Hughes**

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### **\*What I remember best about my Ward-Belmont days...**

I started in North Front which was in Main, but I think on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor. Later we were moved to High School dorm. I was up so high on clear days I could see the Parthenon and Vanderbilt. I still have my annual and I was in Osiron Club, but that was the only place the high school had individual pictures. I can remember we ALL wanted to take or have pictures taken on the deer—is it still there?

### **\*Where my life has taken me...**

I have 5 children and 15 grandchildren and 7 great-grandchildren. My husband W. R. (Bubba) Echols died 5 years ago. He had been on oxygen full-time for about 5 years. He was diagnosed with COPD at first in Oklahoma City at a breathing clinic then later emphysema and went to Scottsdale for Lung Reduction Surgery. I am an Episcopalian, but believe it is Jesus we worship in different ways. I am a Daughter of the

King--an Order in the Episcopal Church. I think it would be fun to come back and see the school knowing it has changed but is vibrant with college kids and seeing the school as a living school. I later went to Stephens College, also Universidad Nacional de Mexico and finally to Hardin-Simmons College in Abilene, TX, where I met and married my husband. We moved to Carlsbad, New Mexico, on a ranch. We had all 5 children in Carlsbad and later moved to a ranch at Bayfield, Colorado, where we raised the kids.

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## College Class of 1947

### **Barbara Black**

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**\*What I remember best about my days at Ward-Belmont...**My dearest friend at Ward-Belmont was Margaret Francis Thompson (Margie). We stayed close and in touch over the years and were in each others weddings. She was from Marshall, Missouri and I was from Baton Rouge, LA. I am sad to say that Margie died several years ago and her husband (Charles F. Malone) just one year later. I miss them.

### **\*Where my life has taken me...**

My husband is a retired Presbyterian minister. We have three wonderful sons and eight grandchildren (ranging from 20 to 6). There are 5 boys and 3 girls. We are retired and live at Cedar Creek Lake just 70 miles South-East of Dallas, Texas.

### **Billie Hailey**

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### **\*What I remember best about my Ward-Belmont days...**

World War II had just ended. I invited a young Marine who had just returned from four years of combat with two purple hearts to a tea dance at W.B. A storm put the lights out and a chaprone shouted "boys on one side and girls on the

other side!" He was in disbelief. I married Russell Dorris, the Marine, three weeks after I graduated from the College Dept. of W.B. We were married for 51 years before he died in 1998. I liked all of my teachers, but I was mortified of Miss Morrison. Being a day student, I knew many of my classmates. The influence of W.B. on my life is priceless.

### **\*Where my life has taken me...**

Russell Dorris and I had two daughters, Bitsy and Sally. Bitsy married Woodie Husband and Sally married Tom Delvaux. Bitsy has three daughters and Sally had two sons. Bitsy's oldest daughter Haily Hirst, has two lovely girls making me a great grandmother. Sally's sons Justin and J.R. Allen married beautiful girls. In 2001 a neighbor introduced me to Charles Findley (Chuck). We married two years ago. He has enriched my life. What a blessing! I won the Mrs. Tennessee contest in 1955 and was first runner-up to Mrs. America. As a result, I was asked to be on Channel 4 with Jud Collins. This was a daily show on which I did things of interest for women (cooking, sewing, interior design, etc...) I was there for seven years. As a result of the show, I was asked to be the Fashion Director of Cain Sloan Co. This involved doing many fashion shows and