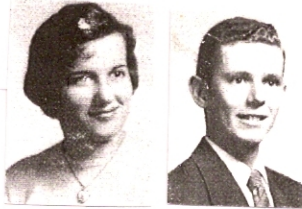


## Steve Cirka

### Joyce (Allen) Cirka



At our last attended reunion, we were living in Bear Lake, north of Manistee, MI. But our life took some big hits and things changed.

Steve's company of 20 years closed, no job left for anyone in November 1995. On December 5, Neil Mitchell, Steve's brother (and best friend) who was a missionary pilot flying from Avon Park to an orphanage in Haiti with Christmas gifts for the kids and medical supplies, died when his plane crashed in Sebring, FL. We were devastated, as were his wife and daughter in Kingwood, TX. We ended up selling our farm and Arabian mare, Shar, and headed for Houston, TX. Steve found a job with Continental Airlines where he worked until retiring in 2004. We moved to Colorado fulfilling big dream #1. It's a beautiful spot. Steve has a little part-time job and loves making golf clubs, which he planned to sell all of...well we have no less than 6 sets besides his and mine. They're like kids, can't let them go.

Our beautiful family has multiplied big time!!

Our four daughters have all done well. Three went to college and graduated into secure jobs.

Linda, a nurse lives next door to us, and has a musically gifted son, Tony (14).

Angela, still lives in Bear Lake and works for Westshore Hospital in Manistee. She is married to David, has 3 daughters, Liz (24 with 2 children), Rebecca (19) in college and Shelly (16) in high school.

Gwendolyn, is a sheriff's deputy with the county. Married to Robert, who is a retired Space Command AF officer, has 3 children, Jeff (16) a soccer king, Mary Pat (14) resident princess with legs that don't stop, and Eric (12) who knows every plane ever flown and is camouflage boy. Fun, fun, fun.

Stephanie, our youngest has her masters in education, as does her hubby, Greg. They teach in DeWitt and Grand Ledge. They have a 2-year-old daughter, Gianna AKA G-bug, who makes their life exciting and fun-packed.

**BEST MEMORY:** Don Blasdale asking Kay Nan, Nancy Hamill and I to sing in his newly formed "Opera Theatre of Detroit at the Art Institute." WOW. Not bad for 3 sophomores, what an experience. And of course our senior trip on the "South American." My favorite roommate was Lilly Beament. We had a wonderful time with the crew and band....she got flowers, I didn't!!

**BIGGEST DISAPPOINTMENT:** (1) Breaking my perfect teeth on the bleachers at my very first Bluejay football game. (2) Receiving the first "Musician Award" as a senior. I told Mr. K that Nancy Hamill deserved it. She went to Julliard School of Music and was a choir director and voice teacher in Pennsylvania

DREAMS FULFILLED: Aside from ending up in Colorado (a dream since 1971), I was fortunate enough to be involved in the Manistee Civic Players in 8 productions. Everything from a lead, Mother Abbas in "Sound of Music," to a dancer to a male dresser (that was really fun) with backstage moments that I will treasure for the rest of my life.

In all, having half the family here, we get together as often as everyone's schedule allows. Game nights, golf, running up to Cripple Creek to play the slots.....even if we lose, the drive is unbelievable, especially with the golden waves of aspens on the mountainsides in the fall!!

IS EVERYONE READY TO PARTY???????