

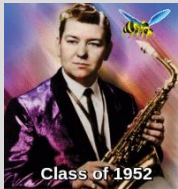
## ***A few of our notable Yellowjackets.***



***Class of 1955*** - Estelle Eggleston, a.k.a. Stella Stevens, a.k.a. Miss January 1960. She was born Estelle Eggleston in Yazoo City, Mississippi, the only child of Thomas Ellett Eggleston and his wife Dovey Estelle (nee Caro). One of her great-grandfathers was Henry Clay Tyler, an early settler from Boston and a jeweler who gave the Yazoo City courthouse cupola its clock. When Stevens was four, her parents moved to Memphis, Tennessee, where they lived on Carrington Road near Highland Street. Her father was an insurance salesman, and her mother was a nurse. Stevens attended St. Anne's Catholic School on Highland Street and Sacred Heart School on Jefferson Avenue, finishing her final year of high school in 1955 at the Memphis Evening School at Memphis Technical High School. Throughout the late 1950s and 1960s Stevens achieved success as a model. When high-speed Ektachrome film was introduced in 1959, Stevens was the first person ever photographed for a formal portrait by the light of a single candle and several reflectors for the cover of a photography magazine. In January 1960, she was Playboy magazine's Playmate of the Month, and was also featured in Playboy pictorials in 1965 and 1968. She was included in Playboy magazine's 100 Sexiest Stars of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century, appearing at number 27. During the 1960s she was one of the most photographed women in the world.



**Class of 1940** - Kathryn LaVerne Starks, a.k.a. Kay Starr. Kay was born on a reservation in Dougherty, Oklahoma. A popular jazz vocalist, she scored a gold single on the American Billboard Charts with “Rock and Roll Waltz” (1956). Her father was of Native American descent, her mother was of an Irish background. During her early youth, her father moved to Dallas and later suffered financially due to the Great Depression. Kay would amuse herself by singing which led to her entry and winning in a Dallas radio contest. This led to her own weekly program and following her family’s relocation to Memphis, she was given a radio show in that city. By her mid teens, she was the female vocalist with Joe Venuti and later had stints with Bob Crosby and Glenn Miller. She recorded with Charlie Barnet’s orchestra; however, she became stricken with pneumonia during this period and was forced to stop singing until she regained her voice again. Following her recovery, she resumed her recording career, as she covered several songs including Perry Como’s “Hoop-Dee-Do” (1950). In 1952, she recorded “Wheel of Fortune,” which went on to earn gold record status. She received a further Top 10 hit with “My Heart Reminds Me” in 1957. Over the next four decades, she continued to record and tour as a performer. She died of complications from Alzheimer’s disease.



**Class of 1952** - John Henry Cannon, Jr., a.k.a. Ace Cannon. One of Memphis’ great instrumental hit makers, a session man at Sun and an awesome saxophonist from Hi Records. He was known as “The Godfather of the Sax,” Cannon cut 38 singles and 27 albums for South Memphis’ Hi label during the 1960s and 1960s. With hits like “Tuff” and “Blues (Stay Away From Me).” He was inducted into the Rock ‘n’ Soul Hall of Fame and the Rockabilly Hall of Fame in 2000. The Mississippi Music Hall of Fame added him in 2007. “He was one of Memphis’ premiere horn players. He had a sound that was unmatched in music

when you think about it. He was rock 'n' roll saxophone," said Boo Mitchell, owner of Royal Studios, the historic home of Hi Records. Ace, who recorded for Hi for nearly two decades was a bridge between the label's early rock 'n' roll roots and its later soul music glory years. "His legacy here speaks volumes to how important he was," Mitchell said.



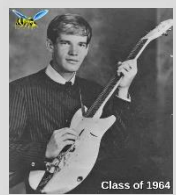
**Class of 1951** - Our very own Eugene Gill, a.k.a. Webmaster Extraordinaire. Gene received his Bachelor of Fine Arts Degree from The Chouinard Art Institute (now called The California Institute of the Arts). He has exhibited widely in the Los Angeles area since 1970, in group shows as well as in one-man exhibitions. His paintings and graphics are included in the permanent collections of The Los Angeles County Museum of Art, The Palm Springs Desert Museum, Container Corporation of America, Atlantic Richfield Corporation, The Northrop Corporation, Home Savings, and The Ronald Reagan Presidential Library. In addition to his career as an artist, Gene Gill was an art teacher with the Los Angeles School District for 25 years. Always the avid traveler, he began moving away from painting-printmaking in 1985 to building miniature replicas of famous landmark buildings. He continues with this today. In April of 2007, a new website debuted on the World Wide Web, titled "Memphis Tech High Alumni" and it featured yearbook photos of every graduate of Tech High from 1922 to 1987. He created this website as part of a "love-affair" with a very special Memphis high school and the website has remained a labor of love.



**Class of 1936** - Our very own James Lawrence "Jimmie" Riddle, a.k.a. Boogie-Woogie Man. Country music entertainer Jimmie Riddle was a member of Roy Acuff's, "Smokey Mountain Boys," from 1941 until his death in 1982. He was an accomplished piano, accordion, and harmonica player who was featured prominently in Roy's road shows and on the Grand Ole Opry. He also performed with Jackie Phelps on the TV-show "Hee-Haw."



**Class of 1933** - Dorris Estelle Bowdon, American actress, a.k.a. Miss Memphis 1937. Actress. She was the widow of Oscar-nominated screenwriter Nunnally Johnson. She was also the grandmother of actor Jack Johnson who played Will Robinson in the feature film version of "Lost in Space." She is best remembered for her performance as Rose-of-Sharon in John Ford's classic film "The Grapes of Wrath." Also, she worked with director Ford in "Young Mr. Lincoln" and "Drums Along the Mohawk." She retired after making 1943s "The Moon is Down," also written by Johnson and based on another Steinbeck novel.

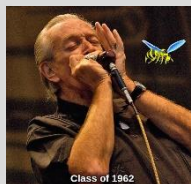


**Class of 1964** - Our very own Travis Lavid Wammack, a.k.a. Fastest Guitar Player in the South. Travis began his professional music career when he wrote and recorded his first record at the tender age of eleven, and also became the youngest member ever voted into the musician's union. After moving to Memphis, Tennessee, the young guitarist made his mark on the music world at the age of sixteen with his 1963 number one hit "Scratchy." He was the first to develop and use the fuzz tone for an electric guitar. By 1969, Wammack's skills landed him in Muscle Shoals, Alabama where he teamed with legendary producer Rick Hall at Hall's FAME Records. Travis' guitar licks can be heard on hit records that have sold over 'SIXTY MILLION' copies!.... songs recorded by artist such as Aretha Franklin, Wilson Pickett, Little Richard, Mac Davis, Clarence Carter, the Osmond Brothers, Bobbie Gentry, Candi Staton, Delbert McClinton, Liza Minnelli, Narvel Felts and many more. Wammack's solo artist career (produced by Hall) also sky rocketed with the release of albums in 1971 and 19975. He traveled the world as Little Richard's band leader from 1984 until 1995, performing on several nationally syndicated television programs as well as President Bill Clinton's inauguration party. Wammack became known as the "Fastest Guitar Player in The South," where he was described by Rolling Stone's Greg Shaw as "the faster guitar player I

have ever heard in my life, and not just fast but good. Brilliant, even. His stage show is flamboyant and exciting.” In 1998, Wammack released his live CD “Still Rockin.” It contains a collection of rock and soul classics from the 60’s and 70’s. In 2000, his “Snake, Rattle & Roll in Muscle Shoals” CD was released. This release contains a collection of Travis’ best original material and is sure to rock you with a touch of soul. In 2002 Wammack released another live CD “Rock-N-Roll Party” which showcases everything from his soul vocals on



**Class of 1970** – Robert Carl “Robbie” Jolly, stalwart of Memphis Technical High School.



**Class of 1962** - Charles Douglas “Charlie” Musselwhite, a true master of American classic vernacular music. Charlie’s journey through the blues was from his birth in Mississippi to Memphis, Chicago, and California. Arriving in Chicago in the early sixties, he was just in time for the epochal blues revival. In 1966 at the age of 22 he recorded the landmark *Stand Back!* To rave reviews. A precipitous relocation to San Francisco in 1967, where his album was being played on underground radio, found him welcomed into the counterculture scene around the Fillmore West as an authentic purveyor of the real deal blues.

Fifty years of nonstop touring, performing and recording have reaped huge rewards. Charlie Musselwhite is living proof that great music only gets better with age. This man cut his (musical) teeth alongside Muddy Waters, Howling Wolf and everyone on the South side of Chicago in the 1960’s. Thank your lucky stars that he is still with us telling the truth with a voice and harp tone like no other.

More than 20 albums later he is at the top of his game, a revered elder statesman of the blues nowhere near ready to

*hang up his harps, his depth of expression as a singer and an instrumentalist unexcelled and only growing deeper. Charlie has been collaborating with the world's finest Artists for many years, including Ben Harper, Cyndi Lauper, Eddie Vedder, Top Waits, Bonnie Raitt, The Blind Boys of Alabama, Gov't Mule, INXS, Mickey Hart and Japan's Kodo Drummers, George Thorogood, Eliades Ochoa, Cat Stevens and personal friend and best man at his wedding John Lee Hooker. Musselwhite, more than any other harmonica player of his generation, can rightfully lay claim to inheriting the mantle of many of the great harp players that came before him with music as dark as Mississippi mud and as uplifting as the blue skies of California. In an era when the term legendary gets applied to auto-tuned pop stars, this singular blues harp player, singer, songwriter and guitarist has earned and deserves to be honored as a true master of American Classic vernacular music. Charlie Musselwhite may be the only musician to get a huge ovation just for opening his briefcase. Fans know that's where he keeps his harmonicas and they're about to hear one of the true masters work his magic on the humble instrument.*



**Class of 1950** - Thomas Edmond "Ed" Craig. Veteran News Anchor for Channel 13 Eyewitness News. As an only child, Ed was born and raised in Memphis TN, grew up singing and serving at Bellevue Baptist Church, served in the Korean war while in the Unites States Air Force where he began a long career in radio and television news.



**Class of 1966** - Earnest Curtis "Curt" Fields, a.k.a. General Ulysses S. Grant. Fields is the same height and body style as General Ulysses S. Gant and represents a true-to-life image of the man as he would have looked. He does extensive research in order to share an accurate portrayal. His presentations are made in the first person, quoting from memoirs, articles and letters the general wrote, statements he made in interviews

*and first-person accounts of people who knew the general or were with him and witnessed him during events.*

*“It’s eerie, Dr. Curt Fields becomes Gen. Ulysses S. Grant...and history comes alive,” said James Goff, professor and chair of the Department of History.*

*Fields has a bachelor’s and master’s degree in education from the University of Memphis in Tennessee. He earned a second master’s in secondary education and a Ph.D. in educational administration and curriculum from Michigan State University. He spent eight years at the junior and senior high school levels teaching before serving 25 years as a high school administrator. He teaches as an adjunct sociology professor at the University of Memphis and in education for Belhaven University, Memphis. He is now an educational consultant and a living historian. Fields is a frequent contributor to the monthly newsletter “The Civil War Courier,” and is a member of the Tennessee Historical Society, the West Tennessee Historical Society, the Shelby County Historical Society, the Nathan Bedford Forrest Historical Society, the Tennessee Civil War Preservation Association, the Appomattox 1865 Foundation, the 290 Foundation – dedicated to the Civil War Navies, the Civil War Trust and the Ulysses S. Grant Association.*

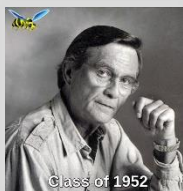


***Class of 1984*** - *Our very own Connie D. Hibbler, a.k.a. Lady Tiger MVP. Starred in basketball for then Memphis State University from 1985-88, playing under former head coach Mary Lou Johns. The high-scoring guard is currently ranked 12<sup>th</sup> in school history in scoring with 1,529 points and a 14.1 point-per-game average. She is also ranked ninth in school history with 349 career assists. The native Memphian remains ranked in career games started at 10<sup>th</sup> with 95 and fifth in minutes played with 3,421. Hibbler was named first team All-Metro Conference in 1987 and was voted to the Metro Conference All-Tournament Teams in 1985 and 1987. Following her career as a Lady Tiger, Hibbler began working*

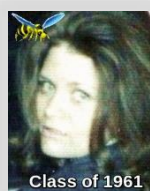
*for Shelby County as a corrections officer and remained with the department for 10 years, before being employed by shipping giant FedEx for more than 10 years.*



***Class of 1964*** - Jimmy Crosthwait is a percussionist, washboard player, puppeteer, sculptor, actor, and member of the legendary band, Mudboy and the Neutrons.



***Class of 1952*** - Norman Clyde Brewer, Veteran News Anchor and news director for WMC Channel 5. After completing his service in the Army, he had a long career in broadcasting, including radio and television. He worked for WMC channel 5 from 1958 to 1974 as a reporter, news anchor, and news director. He joined WREG channel 3 in 1995 as a daily commentator. In addition, Norman was also an editorial writer for The Commercial Appeal, speech writer, and published author.



***Class of 1961*** - Joyce Ann Ward, music aficionado and creator of Tech's Facebook group—helped bring so many, good ol' friends, back together.



***Class of 1943*** - Dewey "Daddy-O-Dewey" Phillips, best remembered for being the first disc jockey to play an Elvis Presley record over the airwaves.





*Class of 1973 - Ann Polk, was crowned Miss Black Memphis in 1975.*



*Class of 1949 - Raymond Lockman "Ray" Godman, highly decorated Marine, business man, opened Lakeland International Raceway plus inaugurated into the International Drag Racing Hall of Fame.*



*Class of 1948 - Beth Miller Mandell. She was an actress in "The Solid Gold Cadillac," "The Glenn Miller Story," and "The Godfather Part II."*



*Class of 1937 - Donald Ivo Newman, professional photographer, Newman's efforts have helped capture Memphis landmarks – those that have vanished from the landscape and those that have remained a constant backdrop to social change—and shine a light on the city's history.*



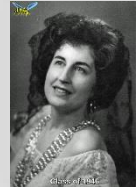
*Class of 1939 - Henry Eugene "Gene" Bearden, Major League Baseball Player with Cleveland Indians, Washington Senators, Detroit Tigers, St. Louis Browns, and the Chicago White Sox.*



**Class of 1931** - Curtis S. Person, *Golf Digest* magazine ranked him No. 1 senior in the world five consecutive years, starting in 1966.



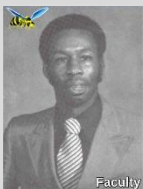
**Class of 1939** - Alice Louise Hall, a.k.a. the first Memphis Maid of Cotton.



**Class of 1946** - Rena Frances Mitchell a soprano and operatic diva with Memphis Opera Theatre.



**Class of 1956** - William Martin Willis, Jr., an American rockabilly rock and roll musician, composer, and arranger who played the saxophone, clarinet, and flute as a member of several bands in the 1950s and 1960s.



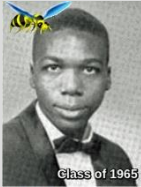
**Faculty** - Robert Lewis Terrell. He had a secret not too many folks knew about. For years, he would offer disadvantaged children a promise: Graduate from high school and I'll give you \$100. He spent more than 40 years in the the city school system, staying for 16 years beyond the point he could have retired.



**Class of 1950** - Nancy Lee Sanders, a.k.a. Hub Cap Annie. Nancy researched the market place and found that pothole and theft victims had very little choice when searching for hubcaps and wheels for their cars. Now there are over 40 stores in some 16 states.



**Class of 1957** - Thomas Jerry Arnold. In 1959 Bill Black's Combo began. The lineup was Black (bass), Joe Lewis Hall (Piano), Reggie Young (Guitar), Martin Willis (saxophone), and Jerry Arnold (drums).



**Class of 1965** - Titus Blade Steele. Artist whose commissions grace several major hospitals in Memphis and many all over the vicinity. "I feel I am not smart or wise, but practical and adaptable for change. And I know I haven't tasted very much of life. Yet, I love people...not black, white, yellow or red, but all."



**Class of 1937** - Franklin Pearce "Pete" Dugan, honored for his steadfast commitment to the cause of the Veterans Plaza in Overton Park.



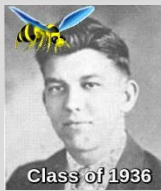
**Class of 1933** - Thornton Robin Utz. The country in a depression, he could afford only one year at the American Academy of the Arts, he learned the secret to being a great artist; drawing continually. His work graced more than 50 covers of the "Saturday Evening Post." International fame came with portraits of Princess Grace of Monaco and President Jimmy Carter, as well as the Carter family.



**Class of 1965 - Jane Fisher (Wiley).** Wiley is the founder of Caring Heart Ministries, a program that offers hope and encouragement to children and adults with special needs, the deaf and hearing impaired, the blind and visually impaired, and to residents of area nursing homes and hospitals.



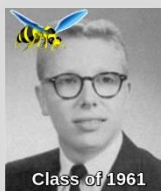
**Class of 1927 - Burton Harry Callicott.** If you've been to the Pink Palace you've see the murals by artist Burton Callicott over the staircase in the lobby. Callicott taught at the Memphis College of Art from 1937 to 1973, and then retained emeritus status until his death. He's also the stepson of Mike Abt, Tech Faculty.



**Class of 1936 - Robert Randall "Bobby" Bragan.** An American shortstop, catcher, manager, and coach in Major League Baseball. His professional baseball career encompassed 73 years.



**Class of 1965 - Patsy L. Coleman (McMahon),** honored for her steadfast commitment to the Quilts of Valor Foundation as they bestow a universal symbol and token of thanks, solace, and remembrance to those who serve in harm's way to protect and defend our lives and freedoms.



**Class of 1961 - Bobby Cheevers.** Bob is the 2011 Texas Music Awards Singer/Songwriter of the Year and an Emmy winning songwriter.



**Class of 1976 - LaConnie Taylor.** In a little over four years, she's authored three full-length novels. In 2008, Ms. Taylor-Jones was the recipient of the 2008 Romance Slam Jam Emma Award for Debut Author of the Year for *When I'm With You*.



**Class of 1948 - Craig Basse.** Craig spent decades writing obituaries in the pages of the *St. Petersburg Times*. He honored the humanity of countless people with dedication to the record of their lives.



**Class of 1947 - William Oren Crumby, Jr.** Crumby spent 27 ½ years with the Memphis Police Department. He retired in 1977 at the age of 50 under then major Wyeth Chandler, who described him as a "policeman's policeman." Appointed police chief in September 1974.



**Class of 1960 - Charles Glynn "Charlie" Miller.** For the better part of his 65 years, Charlie's still life's and landscapes, figurative studies and murals – embodied Midtown Memphis.



**Class of 1951 - James A. Autry.** A former Fortune 500 executive, who is also an author, poet and business coach.



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