



Bob Jeffers – Class of 1941

“The school opened in September 1938. I attended Paseo for one year and started at Southeast as a sophomore. The students got to vote on the school colors, the name “Knights” and the yearbook name “Crusader.”

There were about 1000 students. Anyone west of Paseo had to get permission to go to Southeast. It was the ninth high school in Kansas City. I attended Blenheim Grade School.”

High School Memories

I lived at 1855 East 68 Terrace - just north of Gregory and west of Paseo
I was a cheerleader my junior and senior year. There were three boys and two girls on the squad.

Hitler and his goons were tearing up Europe.

Siblings who are also Southeast graduates

Dorothy Jeffers (class of 1943); Deceased 1977

Memorable classes and teachers

Miss Herberta Towner – Spanish

Miss Mary Latshaw – American History

After High School

I worked part time at a grocery store at 69th and Prospect. I made \$1 a day plus lunch. Back then, they had a driver who delivered groceries, and customers had accounts.

I attended KCMO Junior College for one year. It was downtown about 10th and Cherry. I joined the Navy in September 1942 and became a carrier pilot during World War II. I was in the US Navy Reserves for 18 years.

After WWII, I finished college at Kansas University in June of 1949 as a mechanical engineer. I went to school on the GI bill. Many of us did. The campus was filled with GIs, still wearing a shirt or pants from their uniforms. The GI bill paid for books and tuition. You also got \$75 a month for living expenses; \$120 if you were married. I retired from my career as a mechanical engineer in 1989. I have lunch with several Southeast graduates three or four times a year.

Message to Alumni

“I hope that you studied more than I did and made better grades.”