



**Ernest Eugene Brandt – Class of 1961**

“Knights Rule!”

### **High School Memories**

I lived at 4211 E. 60th Terrace. My brother James L. Brandt (SE '59 and Mary Margaret Brandt (SE '62?) also attended.

My most vivid Southeast memory is how big the building seemed to me then. I loved being in R.O.T.C., but got kicked out of R.O.T.C. for reasons that were never explained to the squad. It turned out okay, because I got to take an extra shop class.

During my time at Southeast, John Kennedy was President. The Civil Rights Marches happened and we were getting used to having Blacks at Southeast.

I participated on the swim team and Teen Town.

My most memorable classes and teachers were Art, R.O.T.C, History, Lunch, Art Metal, & Shop. Two persons I recall are Coach Cross and Coach Patterson. Oddly enough I really liked the Vice Principal, but cannot recall his name.

### **Beyond Southeast**

Away from school, I worked on a paper truck and for my dad at the Studebaker/Packard dealership on Main. I became an Eagle Scout and got engaged my senior year.

After high school, I worked for Upjohn Pharm and Ford Motor Co. in St. Louis. I came back to K.C. to work for my dad at Southwest Body Shop in Waldo. I became the sole owner in 1984. I presently work for Property Damage Appraisers in Overland Park, Ks. My life work has been about cars, cars, cars, and making my wife Carol happy. (Second wife). My first wife, Kathy, died from cancer in 2002.