



David R. Astry – Class of 1961

“We were very lucky to have attended a school with such a high set of standards and traditions.”

High School Memories

I lived at 6663 Bellefontaine. My sisters Carole D. Astry and Linda L. Astry also graduated from Southeast.

My favorite class and was woodshop. I took woodshop every year, and my senior year got Mr. Powell’s permission to drop study hall, so I could have two woodshop periods. I still build custom furniture for fun. That would also mean my favorite teacher was Mr. Barisas.

I was on the Round Table (As a class rep. not actually on the Table). I also participated in a couple of Knightlights programs.

Away from school I spent a lot of playing baseball. I was the catcher for Swope Park Methodist and later Chuck’s Comets. We were in the S.E. Baseball league that played at 69th and Elmwood. I worked for several years at Baker’s Shoe store at the Landing Shopping Center. I also sold shoes for Adlers at the Landing.

After High School

I went to K.C. Junior College and received my Associates degree. After that I worked for T.W.A. until February 1964 when I joined the U.S. Army. I was a computer operator in Finance/payroll. I went to basic training at Ft. Leonard Wood, MO, and then I spent time in Texas, Korea and Maryland. I returned to T.W.A. and U.M.K.C. in January 1967. In 1972 I left T.W.A. and returned to school at Central Missouri State College, and graduated with my Bachelor of Business degree.

I worked for Sears for a short while and part-time for a Lisle Ramsey photography studio. In 1978 I bought a Lisle Ramsey franchise studio in Overland Park, KS. I moved it from Overland Park to Lenexa and finally moved it to Shawnee, KS, and dropped the franchise and changed the name to: Astry Photography. In 1982 I opened a second studio in Raytown, MO. In 1998 I sold both studios and retired.