

Shirley Davis
221 Locust
Big Rapids, MI 49307



Ms. Nancy Polezoes
R. R. 4, Box 936
Gravois Mills, MO

3600 E. Fulton, A 218
Grand Rapids, MI 49546
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Dear Nancy:

At long last I am getting around to answering your letter. I did a pretty good job of keeping up before I went to Harry's for Christmas. Then I came back I had a real hard case of a highly contagious stomach flu. Am finally back at it but had a long list. I try to answer all the former students and friends from my FSU days.

I moved to this retirement village the first of October. It is a very nice place and could not have done it without my Ferris benefits. Of course working until I was almost 70 helped too. This is one of those places where you can stay the rest of your life regardless of health or financial status. I really miss my friends, the church, and FSU. But I didn't know anyone when I moved to Big Rapids 25 years ago and did just fine so know I will be here. It will just take a little time and have already made some good friends and lots of things to do. Can go back to Big Rapids or Down to South Haven in about an hour.

Eleanore and Pete are down at Nina's for a couple of weeks. She really has her work cut out for her. Pete in many ways has recovered very well but hurts a lot and is restless and sometimes irritable. She says he wants to get out then wants to go home when you get there. I have spent quite a lot of time down there this past year. I will go down there later for awhile. I would like to come down to your place but will have to put it on hold for the time being.

Faye comes down now and then. She hated to have me leave Big Rapids but I think it was the thing and time to do it. She has had a hard life before leaving Mike and since. He is such a jerk. She has dated some but right now she seems to be in a very satisfactory relationship. He is an educated successful man and does a lot of nice things with and for her. I pray her kids turn out OK - Mike does all he can to tear them up. Faye is not too realistic. I wish there was a "tough love" group around for her. She is working on her "codependency". Still a very successful teacher at Ferris.

Janis has a lot to deal with now too and is doing it very well. She has quit smoking and, of course, Betsy too. Betsy continues to come back to us. Harold deserves so much credit. He has been so good with her. He could be tougher with Betsy and a whole lot tougher with Travis. Janis gets furious with him. ^{TRAVIS} They should have just had dogs and not kids. Sort of like me but I did a 50% job. Janis feels sort of abandoned with Eleanore gone so I will call her a couple of times.

Bob is doing very well all things considered. He amazes me. Whoever said life is fair. His kids are very supportive and June is doing surprisingly well. I will be calling him this week. *As you see my ribbon died.*

Lois is having hip replacement this week. Her walking was getting more and more difficult. Had a cane last time I saw her. She still very involved with Red Cross and, of course, genealogy. It has worked out very well for Elva to live there. They want me to come down but won't go until summer. It is quite a drive from here and wouldn't go in the winter anyway. I think Lois is planning a 90th birthday party for Elva on July 5th in South Haven. I hope she doesn't depend on Eleanor too much. I will go down early too. Why don't you put it on your calendar? What's with Margaret & Mary? I will stay in Rose Hitch in spring or summer.

Keep in touch. Lots of love

G. Shirley

are you still working with your pg Mom? Sounds like a real challenge. Did I ever tell you I was in Branson last spring with a travel club - great time!