



Committee Members & Contact Information

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**ADDRESSES
AND CONTACT
INFORMATION
CORRECTIONS
ON FAMILY
MEMBERS
SHOULD BE
SENT TO
WAYNE HAYS.**

HAPPY HOLIDAYS TO THE JOSEPH & EBBY HAYS FAMILY!

West Coast Sixth Reunion... Back To a Traditional One Day Event... With Side Events Available

The West Coast Hays Reunion Committee decided to bring back the one-day reunion, with one *main* event, while offering a couple of other opportunities to gather. But we will take care of anyone wanting to gather in groups to continue the fellowship we have developed since 2007 when we brought back our reunion.

When grandma Ebby Hays was alive, the family in Illinois spent July 4th together – food, conversation activities such as softball and swimming, or just sitting in the shade in silence enjoying nature and brother Lewis' ice cream. In the Walla Walla and Touchet Valleys, we spent one summer Saturday together – food, conversation, softball and horseshoes and enjoying ice--cold watermelon.

Date Saturday, July 8, 2017

Sunday, July 9, 2017

Location Garden Center, Pioneer Park
Address 940 E. Alder Street, Walla Walla, WA

Smith's Family Restaurant
1425 W. Pine, Walla Walla (parking lot of Comfort Inn)

Time 11:00 AM – 4:00 PM

8:00 AM – 10:00 AM

Itinerary 11:00 Set Up and conversation
Noon Family Photos
1:00 Lunch
2:00 Sharing & Renewing Facts
About The Families
4:00 Clean Up

Casual, reasonable price, banquet room

↑ **Call Joan, 509-337-2573, to**
← **provide a count of guests attending**
one or both events by July 5th.

Menu Variety of lunch meat, cheeses, bread
Condiments, Salads & desserts
Variety of beverages (3 coolers)
One cooler with ice for BYOB

Open Menu – breakfast, lunch offered.

The facility has bathrooms, convenient paved parking, and inside and patio eating space. The afternoon will feature group and family photos, lunch and stories. Bring your family photos to share – display.

The park has many interesting features and has been a gathering place for our families for years. A number of us had high school graduation photos taken among its attractions – bird aviary, pond with ducks, bandstand, rose gardens, old tree with a climbable swing like limb, cannon, pool, and now modern children's playground and bronze statues. See a history of the park on page 3.



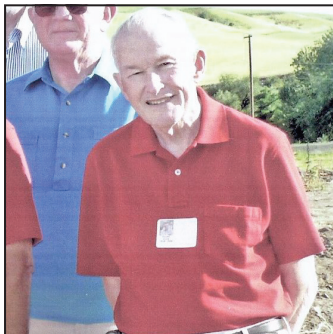
Garden Center that may become a family project to update its failings.

Remembering Wilmer

Wilmer D. "Will" Hays, 85, passed away on Monday, August 15, 2016. He was born July 22, 1931 in Franklin Grove, IL, and was the second child of Ralph and Lucille Hays.

He was a graduate of LaSalle-Peru High School and had three banking certificates, attending the University of Wisconsin School of Banking, Southern IL University and the American Institute of Banking. He was later employed by the Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance Company and ended his career working for Best Buy. Will was an active member of St. John's Lutheran Church in Libertyville and was on the committee that formed St. John's Lutheran School. He was a past president of the Grayslake Chamber of Commerce and was a veteran of the US Marine Corps, serving during the Korean War.

Wilmer's wife Carol (nee Johnson) Hays; 2 children, Jeffrey (Beth Ann) Hays of Libertyville and Sara Hays (John Mitchell) of Chicago; 2 grandchildren, Taylor and Kevin; one great grandchild, Arlo Elizabeth, and his brother Laverne (Sandra) Hays remain as his legacy.



Family Celebration

August 2016 gathering of Ralph and Lucille's family coming from Michigan, California, Wisconsin and Illinois.



Left to right in back: **Gordon Hays** (grandson of Ralph & Lucille, son of **Eugene**) holding his grandson **Declan Cramer** (great-grandson of Ralph & Lucille, grandson of **Eugene**), **Michael Hays** (grandson of Ralph & Lucille, son of **Laverne** & Sandra) holding daughter **Annika Grace Hays**, **Eric Johnson** (husband of Julie Johnson), **Julie Hays Johnson** (granddaughter of Ralph & Lucille, daughter of **Merlin**), **Tammy Hays** (Jerry's wife), **Janet Watson Hays** (granddaughter of Ralph & Lucille, daughter of **Merlin**), **Jerry Hays** (grandson of Ralph & Lucille, son of **Eugene**), **Keith Hays** (grandson of Ralph & Lucille, son of **Eugene**), **Laverne Hays** (son of Ralph & Lucille), **Curtis Hays** (grandson of Ralph & Lucille, son of **Merlin**), **Stefanie Hays** (wife of Curtis).

Left to right in front: **Sandy Hays** (wife of **Laverne**) holding her grandson **Liam Michael Hays** (great-grandson of

Ralph & Lucille), **Megan Hays** (wife of Michael) with her daughter **Olivia Hays** (great-granddaughter of Ralph & Lucille, granddaughter of **Laverne**, daughter of Michael), **Bren Johnson** (great-granddaughter of Ralph & Lucille, granddaughter of **Merlin**, daughter of Julie & Eric Johnson), **Odin DeJong** (great-great-grandson of Ralph & Lucille, great-grandson of **Eugene**, grandson of Jerry & Tammy), **Phoenix DeJong** (great-granddaughter of Ralph & Lucille, great-granddaughter of **Eugene**, grandson of Jerry & Tammy), **Brooke Hays** (great-granddaughter of Ralph & Lucille, granddaughter of **Merlin**, daughter of Curtis & Stefanie), **Jayden Johnson** (great-grandson of Ralph & Lucille, grandson of **Merlin**, son of Julie & Eric Johnson), **Kendyl Hays** (great-granddaughter of Ralph & Lucille, granddaughter of **Merlin**, daughter of Curtis & Stefanie).

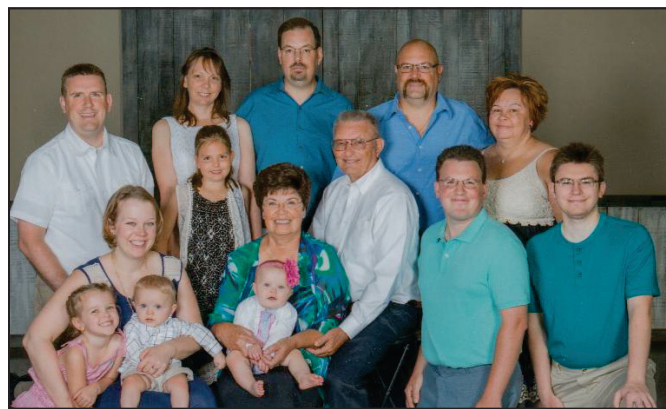
Celebrating a Golden Anniversary



The Golden Couple Laverne and Sandy sharing another dance.

Laverne (youngest child of Ralph and Lucille) and wife Sandra celebrate their 50th Anniversary, August 20th. First cousins attending included: Alvin and Vera Whitsell (son of Nellie (Hays) and Frank Whitsell); cousin Virgil Ewald (son of Rosa (Hays)

and Earl Ewald) brought his brother Leroy's wife Marjorie; and cousin Rhonda Scheisl (daughter of Ruth and Samuel Hays).



In groups [left to right] are:

- Youngest son Michael behind his wife Megan with their children Olivia (age 4) and Liam (age 8 months) beside twin sister Annika on Sandra's lap.
- Middle son Matthew with wife Lori and daughter Katelyn (age 8).
- Oldest son Steven with his wife Tammy, and son Tyler (age 28) and Sam (age 22).

Still smiling, in the middle, after 50 years is Laverne – youngest son of Ralph and grandson of Joseph and Ebby.

Wilbur Hays Caught in the Middle of History

Letter Written by Wilbur Hays (son of Robert & Elsie) to his brother Elmer and sister-in-law Joan.

April 13, 1981

Dear Elmer & Joan,



I am here in Wash DC staying at the Hilton.

Monday was in room heard President speak. While he was speaking I was thinking about how loose security was as everyone who wanted was going up front to take pictures of him. I was sitting about 100 feet from him. I thought I could make the headlines by going up in front and harassing him but realized all would think I was crazy.

After speaking I stayed in my seat as I thought a good patriots should do but when they announced that he had been shot I looked around and noticed only about 100 people left in the room. I then went outside and stood thirty feet (I measured it the next day) from where he was shot. After a while they made us go back into the hotel as they secured the area. Must have been a couple hundred police by then.

I learned more by going to my room and listening to T.V. than could learn at the site.

Tom Donaldson TV newscaster was there in the room where the president spoke. FBI crime lab came was here until 9 PM picking up everything that was loose went over whole area with fine tooth comb.

All news media from Seattle area called us asking what we has seen. You can give this (letter) to The Times.

Will close for now. As ever, Wilbur

Athletic Notes

Mike Petrino was named assistant for the University of Montana Lady Griz basketball team. Petrino's wife, **Kelly**, is the daughter of Eric Hays. Eric played basketball at Montana. Eric is the son of Ken and Maxine Hays and the grandson of Robert and Elsie Hays. Ken played 3 years varsity at the University of Oregon in the 1940's. Kelly has been a practicing counselor for 10 years, she earned her degree from Pacific University (Portland area) in 2006. Her sport was softball.

Sophomore setter **Jewel** Hays of the Saint Anselm College (Mansfield, Mass.) volleyball team was selected as the Northeast-10 Conference Setter of the Week after totaling 90 assists and 25 digs in a pair of wins last week, as Saint Anselm moved to 5-0 in NE-10 play. It is the first time Hays has earned the award in her career. Jewel is the daughter of Christian Hays, granddaughter of Merlin and great-granddaughter of Ralph and Lucille.

Family Colors for Photos

The traditional family photos will be taken Saturday at noon. Please try to wear a shirt the color your family selected.

Robert (Bob) & Elsie
Floa & Burt Hillis
Ralph & Lucille
Walter & Cora
Clarence & Margaret
Stonecipher

Blue
White
Red
Brown
Green
Surprise



Playground equipment located behind the Garden Center for kids zone entertainment.



Bronze wagon located in front of Garden Center.



Bandstand located south of Garden Center and still used for musical performances.

History of this beautiful and diverse park:

- 1901: Walla Walla City Council approved use of this city property as a park, the first park in the city.
- 1908: September 6; formal opening of the park.
- 1909: Bandstand, fountain, boats, zoo and playground established.
- 1931: Renamed Pioneer Park.
- 1915: June 19; an agreement was signed between the City and the State of Washington to construct and maintain a fish hatchery. M. Toner was mayor at that time.
- 1934: February 14; the City of Walla Walla signed a quit claim deed to present legal owners of all affected lands regarding water rights and other terms of the original purchase in 1897.

Hotel/Motel Details

Only one new option since 2015, but you have some nice options and variety of price range.

Don't leave lodging to the last minute. The area features a lot of wine tours and sporting events during the summer. There are a few other options but you might not like those choices.

Lodging is available in Pendleton, OR (45 miles) and Pasco, Kennewick, Richland (45-60 miles)

Hotel/Motel	Contact Info	Amenities	Prices	Note
Best Western Dayton Hotel & Suites	507 E. Main St Dayton, 99328 509-382-4790	Fitness Center Free Breakfast Free WiFi Heated Indoor Pool	King (Advance purchase \$101.99) 2 Queen beds - (Adv purchase \$110.49)	AAA/AARP \$105.00-\$115.00
Best Western Plus Walla Walla Hotel & Suites	7 E. Oak WW, 99362 509-525-4700	Fitness Center Free Breakfast Free WiFi Heated Indoor Pool	King (Advance purchase \$125.00) 2 Queen beds - same	AAA/AARP \$112.50 2 Queen beds or king
Comfort Inn & Suites	1419 W. Pine WW, 99362 509-522-3500	Fitness Center Free Breakfast & WiFi Heated Indoor Pool	King (Advance purchase \$76.00 +) 2 Queen beds – \$80.50	
Courtyard by Marriott	550 W. Rose St WW, 99362 509-876-8100	Fitness Center Free Breakfast Free WiFi Pool	King \$219.00 2 Queen beds \$219.00	AAA/AARP \$97.00-\$202.00
Hampton Inn & Suites	1531 Kelly Place WW, 99362 509-525-1398 (Off Myra Rd.)	Fitness Center Free Breakfast Free WiFi Heated Outdoor Pool	King \$139.00 - \$184.00 2 Queen beds \$131.00 - \$154.00	AAA/AARP \$84.00-\$184.00
Holiday Inn Express	1413 W. Pine WW, 99362 509-525-6200	Fitness Center Free Breakfast Free WiFi, Indoor Pool	King \$125.00-\$184 2 Queen beds \$135.00-\$149.00	AAA/AARP Available but not listed
La Quinta Inn	520 N. 2 nd St WW, 99362 509-525-2522	Fitness Center Free Breakfast Free WiFi, Pool	King \$67 2 Queen beds \$69	Rooms limited AAA/AARP Available but not listed
Marcus Whitman	6 W. Rose St WW, 99362 509-525-2200	Fitness Center Free Breakfast Free WiFi, Pool Restaurant/bar/lounge	King 2 Queen beds	No prices listed Specials available
Red Lion Inn & Suites	325 E. Main St WW, 99362 509-529-4360	Fitness Center Free Breakfast Free WiFi, Pool	King \$74.00 2 Queen beds \$74.00	
Super 8	2315 Eastgate St N. WW, 99362 509-525-8800	Fitness Center Free Breakfast Free WiFi, Indoor Pool	King \$140 2 Queen beds \$145	Rates are high for a Super 8, AAA & AARP not listed
Weinhard Hotel	235 E Main St, Dayton, WA 99328 509-382-4032	Historic hotel & vintage decor Free Breakfast & WiFi	Queen \$129 + tax 2 queens \$159 + tax Cottage \$199 + tax	
Blue Valley RV Park Also RV park in Dayton	50 W. George St Walla Walla 866-855-8282	60 Large Back-In Sites that Accommodate Slide-Outs, Hook-up to Electric/Water/Sewer/Cable TV, Wi-fi, Laundry Room		Next to Memorial Golf Course
RV Resort Four Seasons	1440 The Dalles Military Rd. Walla Walla, WA 99362 509-529-6072	Water, sewer, garbage, Power 30/50 amp, Expanded Basic Cable TV, Wi-fi, Restrooms/Shower, Air-Conditioned Laundry	\$ 37.00 per night	
Tucannon River RV above Dayton	20 miles north of Dayton (left towards Starbuck) 509-399-2056	Hook-Up Large pull through spaces Handicap Accessible Bathroom	Full Hook Up: \$25.00/night Tents with Electric: \$18.00/night	