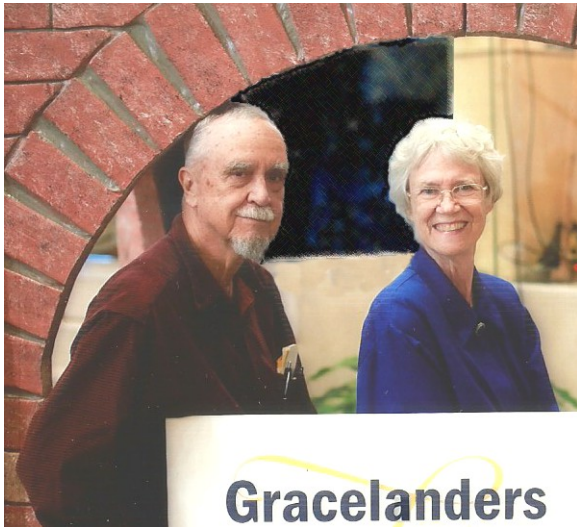


Calhouns' 2017 Thanksgiving

This year the annual Calhoun greeting is a Thanksgiving letter. We hope you have had lots to be thankful for this year.

Nancy wrote this letter while working as a provisional judge at a polling place during the November 7th election. Our local election had no hot issues and most people coming in were clearly-qualified voters, so she had lots of slack time: she had only 3 provisional ballots during the entire 12 hours.

Not much has changed in our lives so this year's news will sound like DITTO.



Ilene & Forrest in 2015



Takota born 5/2017

We are thankful for family:

Children – **Edith & Danny, Omner & Sandi, Aaron & Donna**

Grandchildren – **Andrew & Deidra, Laura, Caleb, Brennen, Forrest & Ilene**

Great grandchildren – **Arianna, Takota**

Here are some of our family's high points:

Our first great grandson, Takota, was born in May. Facebook allows us to show you pictures of Ilene, Forrest, and Takota. Maybe someday we will get to meet Ilene and Takota in person.

Laura is our first grandchild to graduate from college (Truman State University, Kirksville, MO).



Danny, Edith, Laura

Omner and Sandi had a new home built and are waiting for the finishing touches to be completed before moving in.



Facebook: Sandi & Omner



Myron, Edith, Brennen

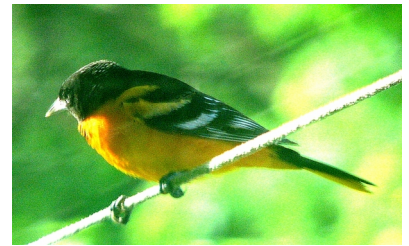
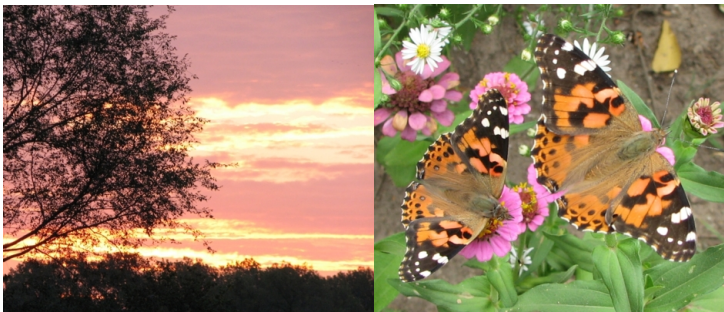
Brennen and Edith visited us right before school started this fall. We note the success of Brennen’s high school band (9th out of 37) in the Bands of America 2017 Grand National Championship’s marching competitions. Marching in his band looks like a lot of work to us.

In October we drove to Iowa to enjoy the festivities of Graceland University’s Homecoming (see picture of us on first page) and to visit grandson Caleb who is now a Sophomore there.



We have lots of animals visit our critter-feeding area: birds, squirrels, skunks, raccoons, feral cat with kittens, deer, and recently opossums. ‘Possums look cute as they run down the driveway illuminated by our car headlights.

Painted Ladies on zinnas



Humming bird and Baltimore Oriole



Nature has given us some chores and some rewards. We have beautiful sunrises and sunsets to brighten dawn and dusk. Unfortunately, Manhattan’s light pollution hides the less-than-bright stars in the night sky,

but our area has good air except in spring when the prairies are burned to make sure you get to eat grass-fed beef. We were near the path of the total solar eclipse and went with a group to the right place to see the whole phenomena – the clouds literally parted for us.



Most summer days, Nancy could be found digging in iris beds or weeding while listening to audio books. Myron could be found cutting okra, weeding, or installing a new garden gate



Yucca blooms (insert shows height)

that he built. It sounds like we should be weed-free, but actually the weeds are winning; we just need to learn to eat them.

Myron still sings in a Barbershop quartet, and Nancy says the quartet “gave a very nice program” at a senior living center this month. Nancy plays in a woodwind quintet which gave a favorite-hits program at the same place a week later. In late October, she was in a regional band which gave a concert in a nearby community, and she has performed with some university groups in the past few weeks.



We are definitely getting older and help support a few doctors in the area. We are thankful that they can help us overcome HURTles. But, as Myron says, “we are still above the daisies”.

We hope this year has been kind to you because we are thankful for your friendship and wish for you many good things in the year to come.

Nancy
& *Myron*

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