

**Class of 1970
Golden Jubilee
2023**



**Saint Xavier's School
Jaipur**



GOD IS MY STRENGTH

Saint Xavier's School, Jaipur
Class of 1970
Golden Jubilee Celebrations
2023



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Pavan Shorey
Shailesh Srivastava

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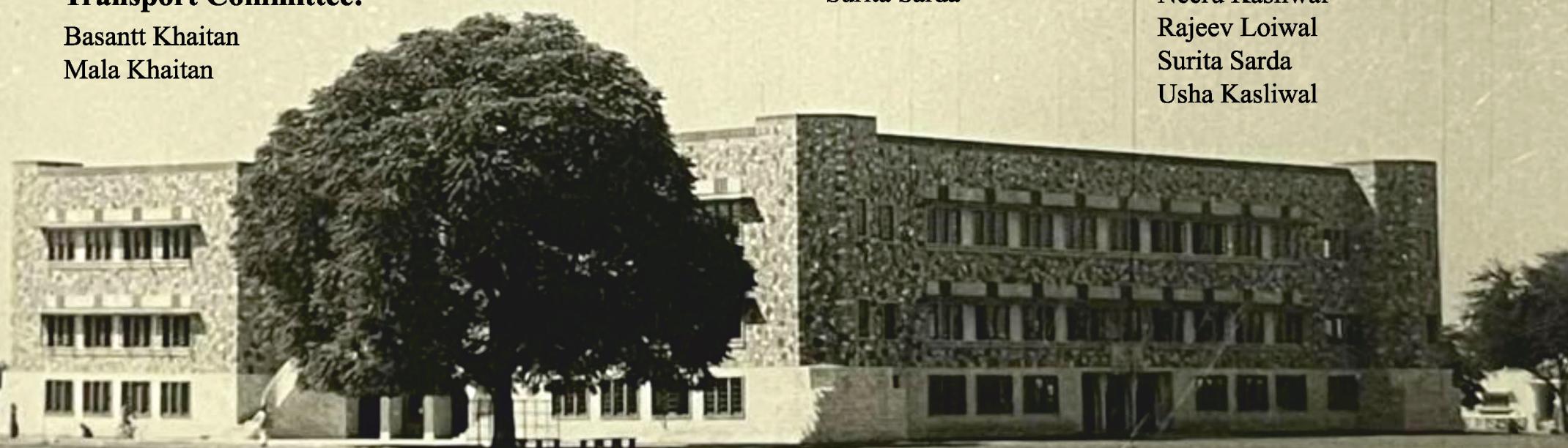
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DEDICATION

Although we all know that we have to go sometime
but when friends leave before their years, it is a tragic loss for one and all.

We fondly remember our friends who are not there with us anymore
and we dedicate this Golden Jubilee celebration to their memory.

Dilip Tandon

Hari Singh

Kamal Das

Kapinder Singh

Karni Singh

Mahavir Bishnoi

Pradeep Saraf

Raman Gupta

Randhir S Dhindsa

Ravindra Yadav





THE SCHOOL

Well known as the 'padri' school, St Xavier's was established by the Jesuit priests in 1943. It was indeed a unique school, one of its kind in the entire state. St. Xavier's School was founded more on contemporary American thought and values, synonymous with modern education and progressive ideas which were in sharp contrast to the 'colonial' mindsets of schools like Mayo. It was the elite of the city who sent their children to study at the Xavier's. Anil Kasliwal, Ashok Pabuwal, Devendra Surana, Rajesh Sharma, Srikant Bulakh along with Sudhanidhi Kasliwal were perhaps the first of our batch mates to get admitted in 1958.

There were many unique things about this 'American' school which we took for granted. This impressive building had a Public Address system installed in each classroom so that the Principal could communicate with the entire school at once. Though I must admit it was rarely used. And in the corridors, there were drinking water fountains placed in the corners for thirsty students. Indeed a far cry from our traditional 'piao'. In those early days, there was a dedicated audio-visual room with projectors and audio players. And in the School Hall, there was a Projection Cabin for proper film screenings every Saturday evenings. Here we saw some of the classic westerns like Stagecoach, Man Who Shot Liberty Valance etc. Among other field games and athletics, there were Yankee sports like baseball, handball and basketball. In Raman Gupta, the school produced a national level basketball player who represented India in Asian Games. Jungle Jim was another concept unknown to other schools where children could swing, climb, hang, sit and do other maneuvers to move swiftly through the iron bar structure.

But of course, the most important part of the school was the Canteen where in exchange of our pocket money, Dayal ji dispensed Buns, Cream Rolls, Milk Shakes, Patties and Ice Cream Cones. That time these goodies were not readily available in town and were highly sought by the kids. Apologies to the Papri Chaat & Churan guy positioned just outside the periphery wall for just getting a passing mention here.

When we came to XI std we officially became entitled to the Senior Common Room where we played Beatles and Bollywood records on the Gramophone. Sunil Aggrawal's lines stolen from Tanuja in Jewel Thief are singed in memory: रात अकेली है बुझ गए दिए.... आके मेरे पास....

Our School also gave us opportunities to do Scouting or join the NCC. There was DK Singh sir who supervised marching practice for 15th Aug parade at the Secretariat. The Scout Patrols under Mr. Saiyyad, Mr. R.L. Sharma and Mr. Barno went for various camps at Tara Devi in Himachal, Pardi near Mumbai and Udaipur. Perhaps one of the most memorable things about the School was the Overnight Picnics. No batch mate can ever forget the trip to Sariska. Swimming in jungle pools, unmindful of the crabs and water snakes, the starry lit heavens at Pandu Pol, the search for Father Pereira in the night and songs competition with medico students spearheaded by Sunil: रमजान के अब्बा! हाँजी! Cycle Picnics, although very tiring, were also a lot of fun. More than 60 kms cycle ride to and fro Ramgarh lake was a day long affair. Fateh Singh was the 'Speedy Gonzales' who was the first to reach Ramgarh.

Special mention must be made of Pink and Grey Cards. Kanwar said "3 pinks = 1 grey and 3 greys meant bye bye school." And nobody can forget the caning or 'Bend Overs' we got for all kind of reasons like failing inspection of nails, hair, clothes, shoe polish, arriving late etc. Get ready to get hit by ruler on knuckles!

As we look back, we realise the values our school gave. There was no distinction between religions and castes when we were in school. In fact, it was in college we came to learn of the difference between Jats and Rajputs. There are small things in our character we notice today that we seem to have imbibed from our years in St. Xavier's school like the habit of reading books we acquired from the vast selection in the School Library. School also gave us a good command of spoken English to present our ideas clearly and succinctly to the world in different spheres of life. It made us proud to be known as a Xaverite.



THE TEACHERS

How do we pay tribute to our teachers who left an ever lasting impact on our lives. In school we played truant and made fun of them. Now that we are senior citizens ourselves, we look back to appreciate the foundations they laid for us to be who we are today. With this souvenir we express our gratitude to all our teachers who came in to enrich our lives. We can never forget them.

THE JESUIT FATHERS

Father Pereira or 'Parruu" as the boys referred to him was not only the Principal but was also the first among equals who did not teach. For our batch it was Father Wilzbacher & Father Zubricky who taught the ISC Batch while Father Extross & Father Mayer were class teachers of AIHS section. Rohit Bhandari recalls: "During my relatively short tenure in the school, Father Zubricky left the strongest impression than any other teacher during my entire school years. English literature used to always be my favourite subject and Zubricky just reinforced that preference with his dramatic engagement in the books we were reading! And I was truly inspired by his selfless service to the people suffering from leprosy. Rakesh Bhandari remembers: "Whenever Father Zubricky saw that some students were feeling sleepy, he used to conduct deep breathing exercises in the class!!! Raphael says it all: Zubricky was a 'Once in a Lifetime Teacher.'



Sudhanidhi recalls, once when Zuby had gone back home, it was Wilsy who substituted and taught them English briefly. Sudha says, "In one of my English essay I had made a small mistake. Wilsy wrote a half page note in Hindi to explain that mistake and his Hindi was not only good but his handwriting was also beautiful."

"But how can one forget Father Extross?" asks Sarvatma Dayal Mathur who thinks "Extross was the most 'Indianised, among the Fathers. No wonder Extross is credited with a Class Song written by him: "I am a gay Rajasthani, I wear the safā shervani, The safā you see is too big for me, But it was a gift from my Nani". Before retirement, Extross was the Hindi Reader on Radio Vatican in Rome.

Most of us recall that Fr. Rebeiro was a terror. Sudhanidhi says "It was scary when I was summoned by the cane wielding Fr. Rebeiro, to be spanked. Sometimes he used a two foot long wooden scale on the bums. He had no qualms about spanking us small first std kids. Fr. Mayer on the other hand was a gentle person. Pavan recalls that "Fr. Mayer encouraged me to write. He picked up the flaws in my sentence structure. We were given an essay as homework. I was in the throes of increasing my vocabulary and would try to fit in the words thus learnt in anything I wrote. Though he declared my essay as the best written in the class, he called it a mud cake filled with stars. And then there was Father Pinto who taught us Trigonometry. Raphael feels that although "Pinto was exceptional as a school math teacher; he gave too much homework for my liking." Physics was taught to us by Father Thotuvelil. Then there were other priests who also wore the white cassocks but did not teach. For instance, Father Wilmus, who operated the cinema projector. Nobody knew what was Father Cosgrove's role but everybody knew he played Golf! Basant vividly recalls "When I was in hostel, I loved to watch Father Cosgrove on weekends, swing from the Church end of the lawn and see most of his shots rolling within inches of each other at the far end!" Our early batch mates also recall Father Bernie and Father Harland who were dearly loved by the children. Naresh Meghani recalls Father Ryan who could lift a 40 kg wheat bag with a jerk of one hand! Father Rosenfelder always looked threatening despite the fact that he was a gentle person. Most of us also recall Father Rebeiro and his close association with Ms. Francis just as Father Grace was linked to Padma Samrat. Well, there was one thing that afflicted almost all the fathers - Smoking! Raman Sarda says: Father Zubriky's breath reeked of cigar smoke once in a while. And Extross was a Charminar chain smoker.



THE FATHERS



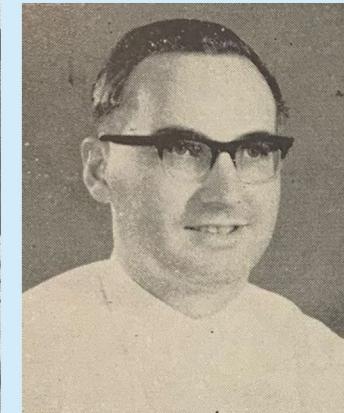
Rev. Fr. Thottuvelil



Rev. Fr. Ryan



Rev. Fr. Grace



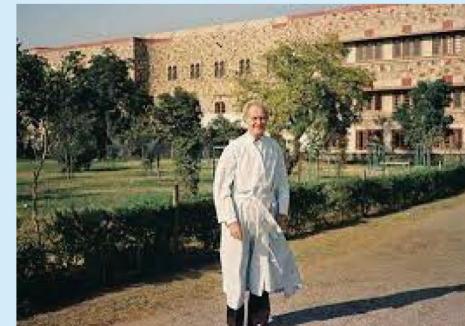
Rev. Fr. Meyer



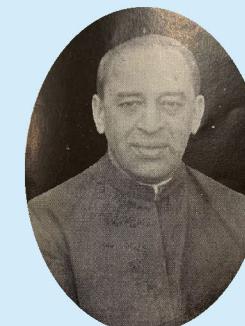
Rev. Fr. Pereira



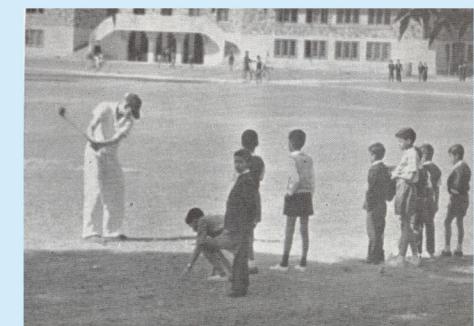
Rev. Fr. Willmes



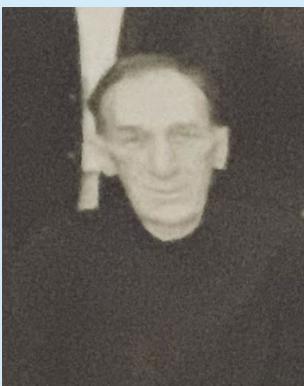
Rev. Fr. Wilzbacher



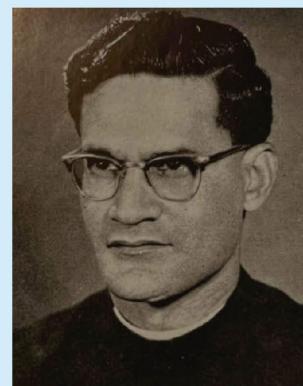
Rev. Fr. Extross



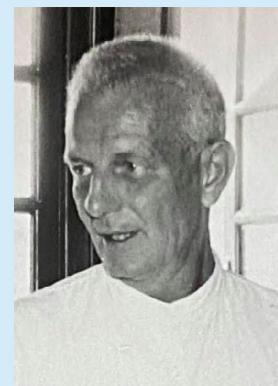
Rev. Fr. Cosgrove



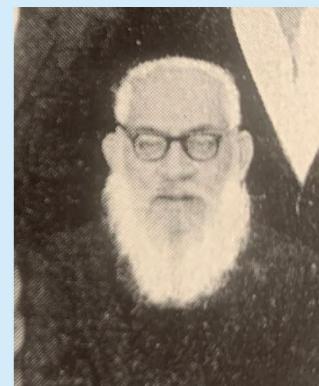
Rev. Fr. Zubricky



Rev. Fr. Rebeiro



Rev. Fr. Rosenfelder



Rev. Fr. Pinto



Rev. Fr. Cosgrove

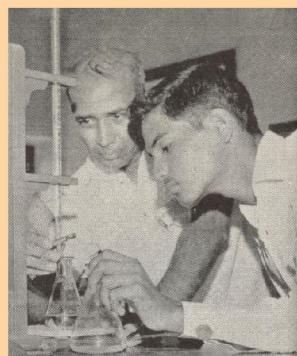
MASTERS



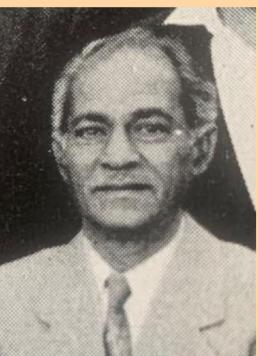
A flood of images, faces, names come tumbling when one begins to recall the different masters who taught us in St Xavier's. The most inimitable was of course, Mr. Brandon who was a master storyteller and entertainer. His stories never had an end and there would be a new story next time. We all looked forward to his period. No work, just fun. Yash Chow recalls "I remember Mr. NL Jain as he would take 2 straight classes of Physics and in about 30-35 minutes of teaching, would say poker faced "This is Electricity for you." Apparently, NL Jain had finished entire 3 year syllabus for Physics and Chemistry in one and a half year. When Piyush Mehrotra once said, "Sir I do not understand this step in the equation", NL Jain promptly said, "it is not necessary you understand everything. Just 'ajzume' it is like that!" But apparently ISC guys had more respect for their maths teachers – Mr. Mathai & Shri S.N. Sharma.

Mr. Nair was the biology teacher with a heavy Malyali accent. Pavan impersonates Mr. Nair convincingly with his pet line: "Simbly Causing Trouble"! His pronunciation of many words was very typical. While the AIHS gang had to dissect frogs, the ISC got cockroaches, which as Deepak Chibba confessed, "Microscope or no microscope in the dissection of the cockroach, I could not see the brain in 2 attempts. I may have subconsciously decided to stay away from Medicine!"

Somani recalls Pandit Hukam Narain who was a Shastri and a Sanskrit scholar. He used to wear a Topi and according to Aditya he really liked to punch hard on the backs of the erring students. Basant Khaitan remembers that Mr. RL Sharma, our Hindi teacher, was so pleased when students called him guru ji and touched his feet! Anil Kasliwal remembers Mr R.L Sharma "who taught me social studies in 9th Std. and developed my interest in political science. As a result I topped in civics in school in board exam. Rajesh Sharma fondly remembers Mr. Wadhwa who was the "my teacher in Infant Class. He was only about 4.5 feet tall and chubby guy. He was loved by all because he was a regular story teller and singer in class and kept the kids amused all the time". Then there was the dapper Mr. Simon who taught English. Batch mates fondly recall his beautiful wife who rode ladies cycle and always wore skirts. They immigrated to Canada. Naresh Joshi inquires "Remember Singhada? He was Mr. R. S. Singh. During the water chestnut season, students would keep a 'singhada' on his table everyday which Mr. Singh would quietly pick up and pocket it." Pavan remembers "Mr. Pareek who was ably built and would not hesitate to box errant students". Of course, there were many more masters we had during our years in Xavier's than we can recall here and we bow to them all for what education they imparted to us.



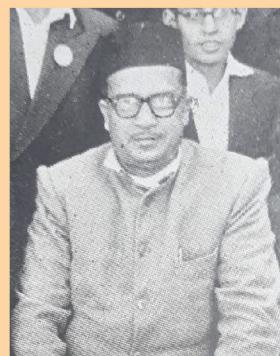
Mr. N.L. Jain



Mr. Brandon



Shri R.L. Sharma



Mr. R. Singh



Mr. Wadhwa



Mr. D.K. Singh



Panditji Hukum Narain

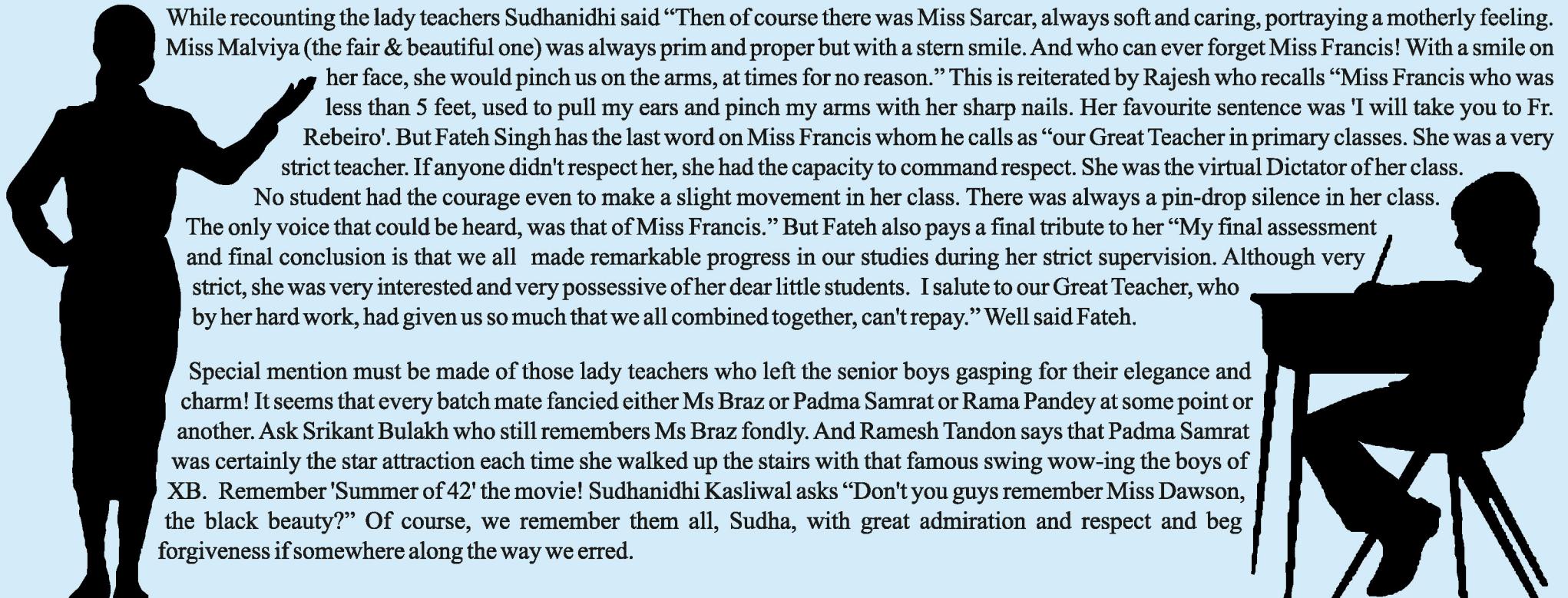




LADY TEACHERS

There is no denying that after mother, the most important person in an infant's life is the lady teacher in the school. Women by nature are gentle and they play a great role as an educator in a child's formative years. And the children never forget them even when they are 70 years old like us! In celebrating our Golden Jubilee we also remember them all. Those of us who joined school as little kids recall Miss Lobo. Naresh Menghani says "Miss Lobo was our Class Teacher in 3rd B. She was a very nice and decent teacher. She also used to be very well dressed especially in a tight skirt and blouse. We used to reverse her name and call her Miss Bolo and she used to get very irritated. Anil Kasliwal recalls: "She used to take us out in the field to play 'mar- darhi' where she also played with us. My class mates used to purposely hit her behind with the ball!" Rajesh Sharma says she was loved by all because she never scolded any one.

Many recall their class teachers with great regard and warmth. Mrs Anand, Miss Sircar, Mrs. Malviya etc. Somani recalls Mrs Lal, the drawing teacher, who he says, used to hit on the knuckles with a ruler. Anil Kasliwal also recollects Mrs Singh in 3rd Std "who developed my interest in Hindi made my foundation strong. Later Miss P Sinha taught us Hindi in fifth standard. I owe my good Hindi to her." Over the years we had many Hindi teachers. But the AIHS guys will never forget Mrs Nigam who taught us the Bhakti poets. To this day we still remember the Kabir dohas.



While recounting the lady teachers Sudhanidhi said "Then of course there was Miss Sarcar, always soft and caring, portraying a motherly feeling. Miss Malviya (the fair & beautiful one) was always prim and proper but with a stern smile. And who can ever forget Miss Francis! With a smile on her face, she would pinch us on the arms, at times for no reason." This is reiterated by Rajesh who recalls "Miss Francis who was less than 5 feet, used to pull my ears and pinch my arms with her sharp nails. Her favourite sentence was 'I will take you to Fr. Rebeiro'. But Fateh Singh has the last word on Miss Francis whom he calls as "our Great Teacher in primary classes. She was a very strict teacher. If anyone didn't respect her, she had the capacity to command respect. She was the virtual Dictator of her class.

No student had the courage even to make a slight movement in her class. There was always a pin-drop silence in her class. The only voice that could be heard, was that of Miss Francis." But Fateh also pays a final tribute to her "My final assessment and final conclusion is that we all made remarkable progress in our studies during her strict supervision. Although very strict, she was very interested and very possessive of her dear little students. I salute to our Great Teacher, who by her hard work, had given us so much that we all combined together, can't repay." Well said Fateh.

Special mention must be made of those lady teachers who left the senior boys gasping for their elegance and charm! It seems that every batch mate fancied either Ms Braz or Padma Samrat or Rama Pandey at some point or another. Ask Srikant Bulakh who still remembers Ms Braz fondly. And Ramesh Tandon says that Padma Samrat was certainly the star attraction each time she walked up the stairs with that famous swing wow-ing the boys of XB. Remember 'Summer of 42' the movie! Sudhanidhi Kasliwal asks "Don't you guys remember Miss Dawson, the black beauty?" Of course, we remember them all, Sudha, with great admiration and respect and beg forgiveness if somewhere along the way we erred.



LADY TEACHERS



Mrs. J. Alexander



Mrs. V. Alexander



Mrs. Nigam



Ms. R. Lal



Mrs. Malvea



Ms. Sinha



Padma Samrat



Ms. Bhandari



Ms. Francis



Ms. Lobo



Ms. George



Ms. Abraham



FRIENDS

Everybody makes friends in School. While we make all kinds of friends, school friends are friends for life! There are friends who are sport buddies, or study companions, or movie buffs but perhaps the earliest group formed in the school was the 'Tiffin Friends' who sat together in the football field – at the same spot every day, during lunch break and shared their home packed grub. As children they had a great time throwing bits and pieces of their roties to the pariah kites circling above. The unforgettable aerobatics of these opportunist raptors that swooped down to snatch up the offerings was very exciting that the children would often forget to take a bite themselves! Sometimes an eagle would even strike with lightening speed to whisk the whole chapatti-in-hand when there was a momentary lapse in attention.

'Cycle Friends' was an another early group. In those days there was hardly any traffic and roads were relatively empty. In early winter mornings, the boys would cycle with hands in the coat pockets. Hands free from the handle! In the Bani Park group there was Rajendra Singh, Pavan, Nihal and Sumit. Then there were the Bapu Nagar boys who enjoyed gossiping and cycling side by side. Piyush recalls cycling back with Arun Kaul and often they stopped by to have *ganne ka ras*!

None of us can forget 'the Badmash Gang' who were forever plotting to disturb the peace usually by planting bombs in the bathrooms timed to go off soon after the interval got over and classes were in progress. Some like Ramesh Tandon & Naresh Joshi, who were in complete know of the plan, staunchly refuse to disclose their identities even 50 years later!

And yes, in our final year at school, there was also a smoker's gang that would make their way to the Upper Field and in the approaching darkness of twilight. they would light up the cheapest cigarettes available like Passing Show and Charminar! At 10 paisa per cigarette everybody had to pay up for their smokes! With those antecedents Sudhanidhi, Rajiv Kanwar, Naresh Joshi and Raman Sarda grew up to be smokers. Finally, now they are reformed individuals.

There was also the 'hostlers' or hostile bunch that moved together intimidating anyone who tried to act too smart. Led by Ram Singh Ras, the group had many members to suit the moment for action - like Anil Satija, Hoon, Ajit Singh, Dharampal, Hari Singh, Karni, Fateh Singh, Dolly, Anil Ram, and of course chief mischief maker Micheal Jain! In this tough group the softies were Korla, Mahaveer, Raman Gupta, Basant and Dhindsa who was the perennial high flying Space Cadet! There were many in the Sports group but the Basketball boys were perhaps the most visible as a group consisting of Ajay Jain, Dalpat, Naresh, Raman and Sudhanidhi, who were regular at the courts every evening. After the practice rounds they would saunter to Gupta Ice at Panch Batti to reboot their energy levels with Cokes! Vinay Dharwadkar was indeed a class apart and was never a member of any group. He walked a separate path, unencumbered by friends! No wonder he was recognized as the Best Hosteler and the Best Boy of the School in 1969.

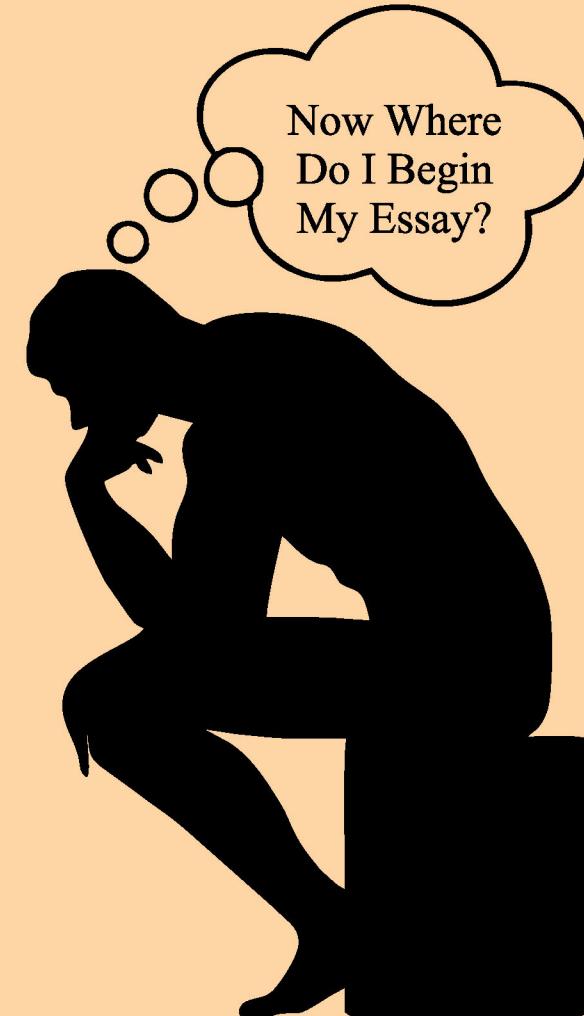
After school, friends went their different ways pursuing their dreams but after graduation there was a coming together again like the Medico Gang and the Engineering / IIT guys. Pavan says that there are more than 20 doctors from our batch. Ajay Jain tells us that there are 7 guys from our batch who are from the IITs & many others from regional engineering colleges in the country. And then in 2010 another group consisting of Jaipurwalas got together to form their own Kitty Party group along with their spouses where they meet once in two months to catch up on gossip, politics and drinks!

Now Cheers to that my Friends!



Essays

1. Sports in our School by Sudhanidhi Kasliwal
2. Summer of 69 by Pavan Shorey
3. Down The Memory Lane by Piyush Mehrotra
4. My First Solo Flight on a Jet Fighter by V.P. Singh
5. St. Xavier Jaipur by Rohit Bhandari
6. Overnight Picnic to Sariska by Sudhanidhi Kasliwal
7. Seventy & Still Sassy by Basantt Khaitan
8. My years in Civil Service by Dharampal Singh
9. Our Batch of 1970 by TM





SPORTS IN OUR SCHOOL

Sudhanidhi Kasliwal

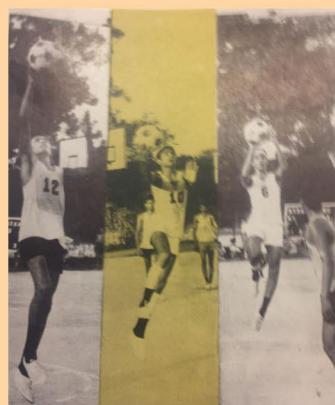
All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy is an old saying and not without reason because sports is an integral part of education. Our school gave us all the opportunity to play and I remember it all from the day I joined Xavier's in KG way back in 1958. Our teachers inculcated an importance of sports even when we were toddlers. During one of the periods (means classes and not what your dirty mind thinks!) they would take us out in the fields and we were allowed to play different games which the teachers devised for us. Sometimes the kids played with the rabbits and guinea pigs which the Fathers had kept in fenced enclosures near what is now the hostel building. And sometimes we would play in the sandpit, under the giant 'ardu' trees just behind the school building. There were swings and see-saw but what was unique was that we had a Jungle Jim which was popular with the kids. When the bell ending the interval rang out, the kids swung out of the Jungle Jim shouting "last man donkey." The poor kid who was last would then get a spanking from the rest. I recall little Deepak Maheshwari was a King of Jungle Jim.

Anyway, as time went by and we also grew up and from 6th std. onwards we began to play Baseball in the last or 8th period. Sometimes we also played Volleyball supervised by Mr. Junia. Compared to other schools in the city, our school had the most number of games available and maximum number of well maintained fields. There were 4 distinct fields - the Senior, the Junior, the Lower and the Upper fields where we played cricket, football, hockey and track events. Near the Father's quarters there were Basketball and Tennis courts, a Senior swimming pool and a Junior swimming pool. Once upon a time, there was a Carpentry Workshop sandwiched between the two pools, where one could learn to work on wood and other crafts. There was also a Gymnasium and Handball courts. You name it and we had it. Unfortunately, there was no billiards but some did play the pocket version. The school also provided professional coaches. I recall there was Mr. Marshall for cricket, Mr. Prithpal Singh for basketball, Mr. Pritam Singh for senior swimming and gym. Miss Raj Bala was in charge of the junior swimming. Everybody knew I was not the studious type. My true passion lay in playing games and I enthusiastically participated in almost every sport available: cricket, football, hockey, basketball, volleyball, swimming, track events, high jump, javelin throw, marathon runs and more. Among my peers were Karni and Ram Singh Ras who were swift and exceptional football and hockey players, while Hari Singh Rathore was also good but was occasionally out maneuvered. In the track & field events, Fateh Singh ran like a Cheeta in the 100 and 200 mtr. sprint races. It was Rajiv Kanwar and his brothers who held sway in the swimming pool where Ajit Singh Shekhawat and Anil Kasliwal also made their mark. Deepak Korla had the agility of a chimpanzee on the parallel bars and rings. After school, Korla made his mark in swimming while studying in the Delhi University winning a gold medal in the All India High Board Diving Championship held in Delhi. The first five in the Basket team in our batch were Sushil Saboo (captain), Raman Gupta (Bhalu), Dalpat Singh (Dolly), Nirmal Kumbhat (Neebu) and of course, yours truly (Sudha, Babe, Cas) for whom Fr. Willmas wrote "he has magic in his fingers" in Blue & Gold. Other basketball players were Ajay Jain, Naresh Joshi, Srikant, CR Sitaram. But it was Raman Gupta who excelled in the game and after school, he went on to represent India at the Asian Games for seven consecutive years, and was also given the Arjun Award. He was so dedicated to Basketball that he started coaching students in his home town Alwar. Cricket was of course the most popular and preferred sport to sign up for and there were many who did from our batch. Under the legendary Mr. Marshal, as a coach, there were many I recall such as Vinay Dharwadkar, Sunil Agrawal, Zakir, Rajesh Gupta, Ramesh Tandon, Rajiv Loiwal, Yash Chowdhary, Pabuwal etc who got training. Many Indian test players came to practice in our school like Salim Durrani, Parthasarthi Sharma, Hanumant Singh etc.

Although I also played football in the School B team, but the star players amongst us were Dalpat Singh and Anil Ram. I also played and represented Rajasthan in the Softball Nationals Championship at Lucknow in 1971 along with Nirmal, Naresh Joshi and Ajay Jain. Although in passing, I must also mention about the 'elaichies' *chepod* by Ram Singh Ras on the handball courts on the back of Nihal Mathur, who still remembers them!



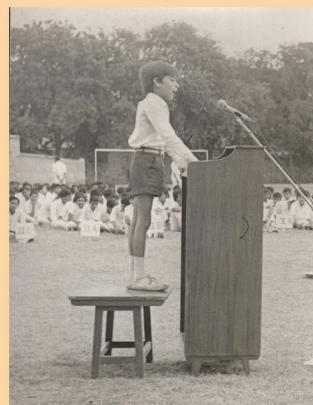
I am proud that some of my sport mates excelled in their fields in their professional lives. BSF Commandant Ram Singh Ras was given a gallantry award for fighting the infiltrators on the borders with Pakistan and defeating them even after getting shot in the bum! Col. Karni Singh received a Vir Chakra for gallantry in fighting insurgency in Assam. It also saddens me to acknowledge that some of my sports mates have passed away. Let us pay our respects to Hari Singh Pilwa, who died from an accidental bullet wound and Col. Karni Singh who succumbed to cancer. Our dear friend Raman also passed away unexpectedly in 2020 of sudden heart failure in his hometown Alwar. Sports have been an integral part of our overall education and that is why our school had provided all facilities free of cost to us in our growing up times. Sports were not only great fun but also taught us teamwork - an important value that is needed in our lives. Besides generating a competitive spirit to excel, Sports also helped me to forge lifelong friendships. Sports also taught us that winning is not everything and how you handle defeat with grace. I would like to thank our educators for all what they did to make us who we are today. I would like to end with remembrance of my beloved wife Anuradha, who if she was here, would have loved to join us all, showering her blessings to all. Those were the good old days my friend, we thought they would never end



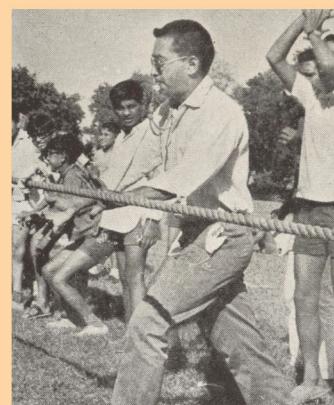
Raman, Dalpat & Sudha



Sudha Shooting



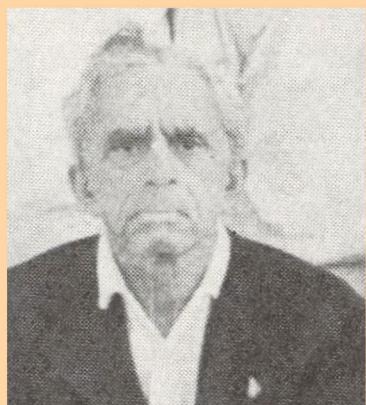
Standing Tall to Announce



Mr. Anand Singh Junia



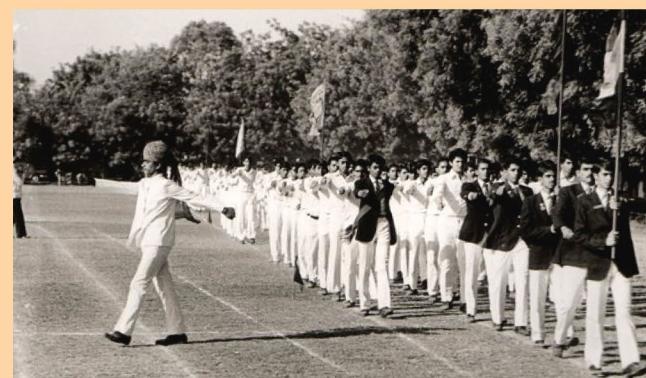
Mr. Pritam Singh



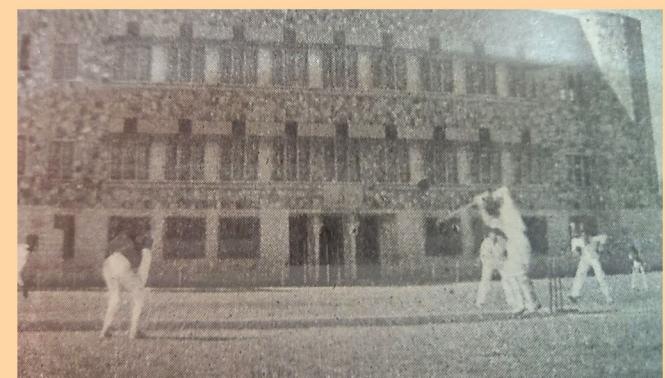
Mr. Marshall



Sports Day Gymnastics



Annual Day Parade



Cricket Practice



SUMMER OF '69

Pavan Shorey

In the seventies, a movie, Summer of 42, created waves for its coming of age story of a teenager who has an affair with an older woman. For us, it was Summer of 69 when raging male hormones raced in our veins. It was an era of conservatism, of prudishness and hush, hush conversations. Bits of revealing skin in magazines or some books were devoured by the boys, fuelling sexual tension in them. A magazine of our times was 'The Illustrated Weekly of India'. It underwent a metamorphosis when Kushwant Singh took over as the Editor. There were issues devoted to red light areas of Bombay, Cabarets in India and the short stories had overt sex in them. It was snapped up by our generation.

I remember the issue on Cabarets of India. The cover had a dancing semi clad woman. We had a regular subscription of the magazine at home. I clandestinely hid the Cabaret issue in my bag and took it to school. It passed lots of hands during the interval. Naresh Joshi snatched it from me and took it home despite my pleading that I had to take it back. At home, my father asked for the new issue. I asked Naresh to get it back the moment I reached school. He was good enough to fetch it during lunch break. He gave me a crumpled magazine like he had physical relations with it! I went home and left it on my father's table. When my father saw the state of the magazine, he didn't say anything. He was an adolescent once and sensed his boy was growing up. Then we had this paperback, Bond Lovers, brought in by Ramesh Tandon. It was carried home by one and all, the semi-nude images leading us to sin with ourselves. The English movies showed only so much skin that was allowed by the censors. I remember two 'hot' movies of that time: Blow hot Blow Cold and The Girl on the Motorcycle. These had lots of sex scenes.

There is an interesting incident about the movie, Blow hot, Blow cold. Our class had gone for an overnight picnic to Delhi and we stayed at St Xavier there. Connaught place was the happening place of Delhi at that time. Our target was to see the movie, Blow hot, Blow cold in Plaza cinema there. Pradeep Chopra and myself bought tickets for the movie. Pradeep tutored me to say that my age was 18 when asked as it was an adult movie. The ticket checker was a burly man, he asked my age, I blurted out 17 and it was the end of our dream to see an adult movie. We saw the movie in Jaipur where the checking was lax. The young lady teachers of the primary class were on the radar of boys of our class and we had our favourites. I will not mention names out of respect for them. The class was enamoured by one particular teacher, let us call her Miss PST (primary school teacher). She had a svelte figure, she was very fair (Oh! the obsession of North Indian males with fair skin) and she was beautiful. Our class was opposite the Principal's office on the first floor. Five minutes to nine, the teachers would leave for their respective class. They would climb down the five stairs to the courtyard and walk to their class. It was the moment we waited for. Miss PST would also make her appearance at this time. I describe one such morning.

All the pubescent boys would be in class at quarter to nine.

'When will she come?' A guy asked.

'Why are you so impatient? She walks down the stairs at 8.55 am. Why don't you relate some fantasies about her?' Another interjected.

'I would like to waltz with her in the courtyard below to the music of Blue Danube.'

'Chal, Angrez! I will be the zamindar smoking a hookah and she will be the nautch girl dancing in front of me.'

A tiny voice spoke out. 'I will like to be in bed with her in the nude!'

All eyes turned to our short statured classmate.

'Hey! Piddu, does your instrument even work?'

'She is coming! She is coming!' Somebody whispered.

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All gathered at the windows, eager to see her. Miss PST was aware of the adolescents ogling at her. She was dressed in a sheer nylon blue sari with tiny floral prints. The sari draped her body so elegantly and some cleavage was also visible. As she made an appearance at the threshold, a collective sigh went up the classroom. She took small, dainty steps, her hips swinging slowly. The pallu of the sari was flowing the air and in some moments she was gone! The frustrated lot gasped for air, she had left everyone unsettled. This went on for some time till a father caught us in the act. He came to our class and forbade us to crowd near the windows.

During our last days in school, the fathers arranged a motivation class in the audio visual room. The motivator was a Father from a school outside Jaipur. Their aim was to prepare us for life after school. We were thrilled because there were no classes and free hostel food was served to us. It went on for two days. It was a bit of a bore but it perked up when the Q&A session came at the end of the class. All had to write their questions on a piece of paper and drop it in a box. The father thought that we would have existential questions but there was only one topic: SEX! One was about night emission, the father answered it so elegantly, I still remember it word by word. 'When the bag of seed is full, it overflows at night, it most often is attached to a dream; it is normal and you must not think too much about it.' The other popular question was on self-abuse (read masturbation). Will I get physically weak if I do it often? Why do I feel so lethargic after doing it? Will it spoil my eyes? Will this habit interfere in my normal sex life? The list could go on and on. The Father answered patiently to each question and allayed our adolescent fears. We relate our coming of age story, our minor peccadilloes, which pale into insignificance when we compare it to the present generation who have free access to pornography at the click of a button!

DOWN THE MEMORY LANE

Piyush Mehrotra

There are so many memories of my time at Xavier's starting from 2nd class in 1962. I remember very fondly the teachers in both the lower classes (Miss Rama Pandey was a favorite) as well as those in the upper classes. I remember how Mr. Jain taught us science and Mrs. Nigam drilled every aspect of Hindi poets into our brain. And then there was the moral science class where we (or at least I) did not pay any attention.

Father Extross, with his bamboo cane, would say: "Piyush hold out your hand" and give me a solid whack. When I asked him what it was for, he would say with a smile "I know you are going to do something wrong, so this is punishment in anticipation." Mr. R. L. Sharma was one of the scout masters who accompanied us on our trip to the scout camp in Mount Abu. I also remember our weekend trips to Delhi and how once we stayed at Delhi Xavier's hostel but shifted later to Anil Kumar's Dad's home in the Railway colony.

On the first day at school after coming back from this trip, some of the students made a plan to skip school and go see the last showing of "To Sir with Love". I did not have enough money, so I barged into Mrs. Nigam's class and to her surprise, asked her to lend me two rupees – which she did!

I cannot forget how when having lunch in the school grounds we would make sure that the eagles did not sweep down and grab our food. I have nostalgic memories of our school canteen with its milk shakes and my favourite cream roll! Not being an athletic person, I did not take part in any organized sport, except gymnastics and handball, both of which I sucked at. Another memory I have is of me biking to school with neighbourhood students but then biking back with my classmates, especially Arun Kaul. We would stop on the way home sometimes and have samosas and ganne ka juice. These are such fond memories of growing up during my nine years at Xaviers!



MY FIRST SOLO FLIGHT ON A JET FIGHTER

V.P. Singh

Let's call it a Jet trainer instead of a jet fighter, a two-seater plane, capable of carrying and delivering armament stores and also certain combat missions, either for training or fighting for real. A lot of fighter planes are full fledged fighters, but found very good for training too. The Hunter is one of them. Another is a MIG 21. Also, there is no such thing as discovering in your first solo on a particular type of fighter. Simulators, dual checks in the 2-seater trainer version of the plane and thorough study of the pilot notes of the machine is a must before you go for your first solo. If you're the surprising yourself type, or looking for thrill, the first solo is not for you!

We had finished our basic Flight training on a Piston engine propeller plane- at EFS (Elementary Flying School), on the HT2 in the first half of 1975. We were now destined to move to FTS, "Fighter Training School." We arrived and were suitably impressed by the Threat or Encouragement emblazoned on the front face of the Flight office in block capitals, reading - "THROUGH THESE PORTALS PASSED OUT SOME OF THE BEST FIGHTER PILOTS OF THE WORLD!" High standards indeed! They were talking to us, and we couldn't afford to fail. Bouncing back in time, it so transpired, that the IAF had decommissioned De Havilland Vampire jets. Some Kiran HJT-16s (Hindustan Jet Trainer) had been brought in and brand new jet trainers, the TS-11 Iskra (Spark) were expected soon. Being short of planes, the course was divided into two. Some of us boys started flying Kirans which reduced us, the remainder, to "low life". To add insult to injury, we were called "You Bloody Turdies" while they trotted off to their allocated plane in flying overalls, gloves, helmets and maps, to complete external checks and await the arrival of the instructor, in the cockpits.

Soon, they were progressing and being launched solo, doing aerobatics, recovery from stalls and spins, formation flying, navigation at high level and low level. Every dog has his days. A couple of months later and unannounced, we saw a Big AN12 transport, with foreign markings the Polish Flag on the tail. We couldn't miss seeing him, because as we sat in the verandah with our legs dangling, looking spell bound at this phenomenon. Our time had come. Two streamlined fuselages of two pretty Iskras were visible along with four wings decked alongside. The AN 12 departed in a couple of hours.

Soon, we would be in business! Just in shorts and chappals, with no other clothing, we got to work soon and assembled the "semi knocked down" kits as fast as further shipments were delivered. Aircraft strength was built up. The Aircraft was a sleek beauty, in fore and aft tandem configuration, equipped with ejection seats. With a neat cockpit lay out offering a wide field of view and impressive instrumentation, including a neat gyro gun-sight one of the best I have come across. This cockpit was one of the best for night flying, with UV lights illuminating the instruments, even after electrical failure. A light, easy on fuel [1200 litres] goes into the wings, and you're good for 1200 km. Very responsive power assisted controls for doing aerobatics or other combat manoeuvering.

Now, talking about flying the plane and the thrills of this very fighter like trainer plane- or a mini fighter made by the Poles. They, as a nation, are aviation loving, particularly as participants in air shows, including low level aerobatics and/or formation flying. I really enjoyed my hundred hours of training on the Iskra at Hakimpet. Four of our instructors had been trained in Poland. We had been gunning up on aircraft systems, checks and procedures. Soon the Circus was on the road.

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We had another axe to grind, in our Kiran-Iskra fued. Almost all the Kiran boys had finished their solos, but the solo party for the course had not been held because of the Iskra delay. The Instructors threw the party at the officer's mess. Towards this, an invitation card was dropped at the Iskra Flight, for 22nd Nov '75. So, Sardar P Singh, our Chief Flying Instructor carried out my mandatory progress check to follow the procedures and slated me for a Solo check on the 22nd Nov. On completing the solo check, he asked me, "Confident"? My reply, 'Could be nothing but confident'. Right - Go and kill yourself" (for luck)! Follow the General Handling profile".

Soon, the Iskra guys too, had at least one candidate, and have both groups enjoy a good bash at the Officers mess in Sikandarabad. Aviation has its moments of amorphous momentary sights, sounds, shivers and pure glee, which sometime make you ask "Oh God! What did I do: " Somewhere in my youth or childhood, I must've done something good! (Song from The Sound of Music) to deserve this divine profession, not available to Earthlings.

It could be a contrail (vapour trail) you see emanating a milk white cloud trail extending from your wingman's exhaust and you look up at your rear view mirror showing the same tell-tale thread meandering for a 100 km behind. One can whip into a quick turn or barrel around your partner, almost like a dog chasing his own tail. Sometimes, you see your own shadow travelling on the layer of cloud below, ringed by a full 360 deg rainbow. You get paid (not much though) to horse around. There is so much of freedom in 3 dimensions. It's fun - and its training. Its high, gut wrenching, sweating, hyperventilating and adrenal stuff, yet its work and exhilarating. It's part of combat manoeuvring. And it gets you hungry enough for your breakfast in the crew room soon after- Not bad for an early morning briefing, a 30 minutes of flight, and it's still 0730 on the breakfast table.

Eyes down to the next number, who's the chap flying IF (Instrument flying) with me. Ask him to check if the trainer is ready and meet me in the briefing room. I'll be back from my son's school.... In half an hour. Some F'up. Teacher wants to meet me.....The irony now was, that the brand new Iskras had good serviceability and availability. We finished our flying off about 100 hours of our flying syllabus, while the Kiran lot were struggling to complete the course. They were the "Turdies" now. The good news was that we could catch the bus from Dhungalmari village to see the evening movie in Hyderabad. The bad news was, that it again fell upon us, to do all the PT, parades. Ground classes, exams, punishments, dinner nights and bumf!



XAVIER'S JAIPUR

Rohit Bhandari

My stint at Xavier's was in a way minimal, as I joined the school in July 1969, in the middle of the ISC course preparation! I was studying at St. John's Chandigarh, when my father got transferred to Jaipur in May 1969. I got admission to St. Xavier's and shortly before the start of the session in July, I visited the school for an interview with my new class teacher Fr. Zubricky. That was perhaps the most weird encounter I'd ever had since the beginning of my schooling! Zubricky looked and acted intimidating and he grilled me on what all I had completed in the ISC course till that time. As it turned out, the English Literature books I had prepared for in Chandigarh were totally different from those being followed in Jaipur. Likewise, the portions I had completed in Chandigarh in other subjects were still to be taken up in Xavier's, resulting in duplication in many cases and a massive catch up on my own in others. By the time we ran through the curriculum and how I was so horribly out of sync, Zubricky turned sternly towards my father and asked him bluntly "Why are you doing this to your son? How is he going to cope up with the rest of the class?"

Not the best introduction to my new school and class teacher. For once my always confident father seemed somewhat disconcerted and I was in quite a daze to say the least! After the usual pep talk from my father, I started school when the new session started in July 1969. To make matters more complicated, we were living in the A.G. Office colony in Bajaj Nagar, which in those days was at the edge of town, a good 4-5 km away from school. Thus started my daily ride on my bicycle to school and back in the piercing heat of the afternoon and on some days it happened twice when there was some after school activity that I wanted to participate in. To cut the long story short, initially I had a great struggle trying to catch up on the course content while simultaneously on my own I was coping with portions already covered. During this period, somewhere along the way my relationship with Zubricky became highly elevated as I found him to be a highly inspirational teacher (Literature was my favourite subject) and he probably got impressed at my efforts to catch up with the rest of the class. At the same time I was fortunate to develop some good friendships with a few of our class fellows while I found the overall batch to be a good mix of friendly young aspiring men, each pursuing a dream and charting a course for the future. Having had my prior schooling from various schools in different towns, I did find it somewhat strange that most of my class fellows had been together from Grade 1 (or even earlier) which had resulted in strong bonds for obvious reasons. The school management style too was quite different for me as St. John's was run by the Christian Brothers who were basically educationists and had a strict and formal relationship with the students whereas Xaviers had Jesuit Priests who by nature were more engaged with the students and their welfare.

When the ISC results came, I was pleasantly surprised to find that I had scored a 1 point in my favourite subject English Literature, which I believed would guarantee me admission to my dream course of English Literature Honours at St. Stephens. Alas, at the same time I managed to score a decent all India rank in the IIT entrance examination, and before I knew anything I found myself being firmly steered by my dominating father towards a career in Chemical engineering. That's how I ended up qualifying initially as a reluctant engineer, but that's another story altogether!



OVERNIGHT PICNIC, SARISKA

Sudhanidhi Kasliwal

One early morning in 1967 when we were in 8th Std. we class fellows clambered on to the school bus and departed for Sariska in high spirits, singing songs, playing pranks and just having plain simple Fun! Three hours later, we arrived outside the main gateway entrance into the Sanctuary. Thereafter we went on a bumpy drive in to the forest area, along narrow winding roads, looking out keenly to spot the animals. Some guys started jumping upon spotting black faced langoors, even though there were some amongst us in our bus!! We were lucky to spot some chital and sambar deer, neelgais, a porcupine and even a fox or was it a jackal? I cannot remember. A snake crossed the road and so did a pair of mongoose. We also saw a mean looking monitor lizard but a glimpse of the Tiger, mighty king of the forest, eluded us. Anyway our luck was not with us but who cared when all the friends were together! Anil Satija, Ajit Singh, Anil Ram, Rajiv Kanwar, Anil Kasliwal, Naresh Joshi, 'Pochi' or Raghbir Singh Kunadi, Pradeep Singh Paduka, Joseph Jacob, Dolly, Mahender Pal Singh, Basant Khetan, Sadiq Umer, Akhil Jugran, Ram Singh Ras, Hari Singh Pilwa, Anil Sehgal, Yadvender Singh, Bhojraj Singh, Subash Ajmera, Manoj Mathur, Ravinder Yadav, etc are some of the names I recall now and my memory fades for other names. We finally reached our first destination, the Hanuman temple in the core area of the forest. We jumped out of the bus and rushed towards the waterfall at Pandu Pol but to our dismay found our seniors from 9th Std. already there! After some fool hardiness we came back to the Hanuman temple where we prayed to God for giving us a glimpse of the Lord of the jungle. After eating our packed lunch we moved out to see the Mansagar Lake, Kali Ghati, Jhilmil etc and by sun down we came back to the forest guest house and office. We were directed to camp for the night in an under-construction building of the present Tiger Den Tourist Bungalow. The building had no electricity, no doors or windows, and we scrambled to find our places to spread our "holdalls" for the night. Some of us went on the terrace just to encounter the 9 Std. guys parked there for the night. We almost had a fight when they scared our guys by acting as ghosts! Anyway, after early dinner, exhausted we retired to have a sound sleep but then in the middle of the night we were woken up by Basant who declared that he had to urgently respond to the call of nature! So those of us who were not afraid of the dark night volunteered to escort Basant to a nearby clearing where two guys with torches and two small knives stood guard in case a tiger showed up! Others went to fetch water. Operation 'Drop the Load' was completed successfully and thereafter greatly relieved, we all fell instantly back to sleep and woke up only when the sun was shining in our eyes next morning. Some guys rushed into the forest with their water bottles for 'morning business' while others went to the well for a quick bath or just a wash.

After breakfast we packed up quickly and left for Jai Samand and Siliserh Lakes. Finally we ended up at Narayani Mata temple where we got freshly cooked lunch. After discovering the environs, we played around "gulli danda" for a while. Well, all good things must come to an end, so from there we proceeded for home. Return journey was as expected dull and sleepy because guys were tired. When we reached school just before dark, we collected our luggage and rushed home to tell our tall tales! Then again in 1969, when we were in X Std. we had Season Two of Sariska overnight picnic because no other place was available for overnight stay which was free of cost! And although Tiger Den Tourist Bungalow had now started functioning but we couldn't afford it. So we had to contend with spending the night at the roof top of the Hanuman Temple in Pandu Pol.

With both XA and XB boys, we reached Pandu Pol in two buses around midday but to our utter dismay we found a group of guys and gals from SMS medical college already spread out all around. Although we had a tiff but finally we had to relent. We ventured out down the road to the big pond we had seen during our bus ride, where we wanted to swim and fish. We quickly stripped down to our shorts and jumped in the pond where we could see a lot of fish, water snakes and crabs but nobody cared! We had great time swimming. Guys also caught fish but were jeered by the Langurs from safety of the trees. After we finished swimming we started to walk back to Pandu Pol but not before Hari Singh threw a grenade in the pond which he had "gayab karod" from his brother who was in the army. After lobbying the grenade we all crouched behind the big boulders and waited for the blast, which to our utter disappointment, it turned out to be a dud! Hari wanted to retrieve his 'phoos' grenade but nobody had the guts to dive in and fetch it back. And imagine the stalwarts amongst us: Dalpat Singh, Rajiv Kanwar, Randhir Singh Dhindsa, Sunil Hoon, Ram Singh Ras, Anil Satija, Anil Sehgal, Ajit Singh, Raman Gupta, etc. We were starved and upon reaching the buses, we grabbed our packed lunch boxes and just gobbled the food. Satisfied, some of us relaxed in the buses while others went to a nearby stream. After some rest, we ventured up the road towards the Pandu Pol waterfall, which is supposed to have



Overnight Picnic, Sariska Page 2

been created by the “gada” or the mace of Bhim during the Pandav's “banwaas” or forest exile . After a lot of fooling around and loitering we came back to the buses and had evening tea with buns, bananas, biscuits etc. At dusk, the jungle came alive with various sounds that reverberated in the hedged-in valley. I distinctly recall hearing “chakoo, chakoo, chakoo.” Years later I came to know it was made by a bird called night jar. There were parrots screeching, peacocks calling, whoops of monkeys and occasionally a sambar call. Amidst all this, someone excitedly said Fr. Pereira was missing. Since nobody knew where he was, we decided to look for him. We formed two groups and went in opposite directions with torches and whatever manner of knives we had! It was Randhir Dhindsa who had a Kukri, from his dad's collection, to fight the Tiger if we came face to face! It was a moonless dark night and it was pitch black. We walked down huddled together loudly talking amongst ourselves to hide the fear. There were eerie sounds of rustling leaves, whistling of the wind passing through trees, the swishing of water from the stream, twinkling eyes of the deer in our torch light and occasional howls of the jackals but alas! Fr was not to be found. Now we were worried and we contemplated worst case scenarios. Maybe a tiger had dragged him to his den or perhaps a leopard was making a meal out of him!! Disheartened and distressed we went back to the buses and found the other group also had no luck finding Fr. Pereira.

Amongst all this chaos, the cook was busy preparing our dinner of “aaloo puris” when suddenly Fr. appeared from behind a bus from the stream side. The bus was one obvious place we had not bothered to look in and he had a hearty laugh when we told him what all had happened. Whatever, it was an adventure we still remember 50 years later! Anyway, it was getting late and we all had a large meal as we were famished. Soon after dinner we spread our “holdalls” on the roof of the temple verandas. In the temple downstairs there was a lot of “hulla-gulla” since a “jagaran” was going on. It had been an exciting day and even though we were very tired nobody was in any mood to sleep with sexy jokes and poetry especially from Sunil Agarwal. Just when sleep was overtaking us Nihal did 'a Basant' one from Sariska Season 1! Obviously he had stuffed more “aalos” than he could handle! Again, fearless volunteers had to escort Nihal to a safe position which happened to be atop a sloping tree over a stream! No 'chakkar' of getting water this time for a cleanup job! Thereafter we all slept fitfully under a star lit heavens only to wake up when the sun had broken from behind the hills. After morning ablutions – all alfresco - we had a steaming hot cup of tea and some biscuits. Breakfast consisted of two slices of bread, a banana, biscuits, a boiled egg and tea. Recharged, we packed up and loaded into the buses. We went to Kali Ghati , Jai Samand and Siliserh lakes where we had lunch. Some did boating where Joshi and Kanwar sat on one side the boat almost turned it over. These two jokers were removed from the boat. Some fooled around with the red faced monkeys, who were in abundance while others relaxed in the terrace of the Siliserh palace. After tea and snacks we departed for Jaipur. Today as I sit and recall little stories I still remember that we all had a wish to come back to Sariska yet again only to keep the date with the Tiger.



Bromancing with Buddies यह दोस्ती हम नहीं तोड़ेंगे

“SEVENTY AND STILL SASSY: EMBRACING THE GOLDEN YEARS WITH A WINK”

Basant Khaitan



“Hey guys, how have you been doing? Great meeting the gang after 50 years! So, I (we?) will be turning 70 in just 5 months. Lately I have started observing how life has become a mix of grand adventures and unexpected surprises - like trying to find your glasses parked on your head or wondering where you left your mobile till it rang in the jacket hanging on the chair behind you!

With all it's unpredictability, life is far from over at any age. Imagine how fortunate we were to jump the 2 world wars, 2 major pandemics, the Nuclear bomb; by just 2 decades and yet be there to witness and participate in using high-tech for our work and personal life. Back in our school days, Software meant something Mom wanted me to wear to bed; Digital was something containing digits: like maths; Internet was the Net we used for Indoor badminton; Clones was just a spelling mistake for Clowns, and Electronics was something to do with Electrons that we learnt about in our Physics class!!

Wifi, smart phones (wonder how they became smart without being punished at school), food deliveries, emails – all have become an extension to our existence. Instead of jokes, I'm made to believe that it's actually emojis that make one laugh.

Depending on how carefully you've attended to your health, life at 70 can be full of joy, wisdom, and plenty of hilarious stories to share. Slowly yet surely, one starts appreciating that getting older has its advantages. For one, people automatically assume you're wise. They look at you and think, 'Oh, this person must know what he's talking about.' They seem oblivious to the fact that their confusion will be our entertainment.

Getting to 70, you start noticing changes in your body. Wrinkles on your face that make you redo your iphone profile, the middle bulge that stays longer than 9 months, movement slows down as if preparing for a race with snails and laziness sucks like a croc soaking in the warmth of the sun – all symptoms that need care & attention through old age tricks: Yoga, meditation, balanced diet, deciding to let-go more often, being grateful for what you have and finding time & reason to look in the mirror and smile at yourself more often.

But hey, count the silver linings too. Being 70 means Doctors appointments tend to become a hobby; I can pretty much say whatever I want and get away with it - I mean, I can dish out the sass and call it 'wisdom', you know – like it's my superpower! In our traditional Indian families, suddenly the joys of retirement retire, just when you dream there's someone to look after you (your son & daughter in law) you wake up to realise that the care lasts as long as you look after their children. Much to your dislike for time management, you can now afford to allocate more time for what you like – but seldom for what you 'really' like (roulette anyone?).

The anxiety of forgetting your pills on time makes you sick, losing ones train of thought mid-sentence adds to the comedy, realising that the party you were invited to was yesterday makes the stomach churn and celebrating your wife's 70th birthday on your anniversary day - results into ... (let's take time off to rewind here)!

Cont. next page....



Seventy and Still Sassy. page 2

Of course, we must engage in the endless debates circling fountain of youth. But let's be honest, who needs a fountain when you've got a pungent sense of humour that keeps you forever young? At seventy, you've honed your wit to perfection (almost), and you're not afraid to use it (also almost) – whether it's to tease the grandkids or to roast your friends during get togethers. Or maybe you've become a star bathroom singer or a freak in cycle marathon (using the gym bike of course)! Did someone just mention abstract painting?

Spend time catching up with stories of where life has taken you, what family has meant to you, exchanging wonderous and disdainful life hacks, funky school memories, the fun and amusing moments you almost forgot, silly adventures that made you laugh your stomach out, events that shot you to fame or rubbed you down, stories from the voyeur in you, medals you won or lost, the bout that stole your two front teeth, the smoke ring championship in the school toilet and unforgettable moments like the rooster-pose punishment for sticking chewing gum on the Math's teacher's seat. Deep in the night amongst friends, with the ice cubes still looking golden in the glass you're holding, release your anxiety and finally reveal where you hid those horny mags. And don't forget to whine about your Guru who made you wise(r) almost to the point of a monk! Everything except the secret of why your girlfriend didn't marry you!..... man – one can go on & on!

In conclusion, my fellow seventy-year-olds, life at this age can be as riotous an adventure as one wishes - filled with laughter, delight and the occasional dash trying to befriend smart gadgets. Simultaneously you carry a wild appreciation of your simpleton image on realising you are wearing mismatched socks - with the awe and enthusiasm, a kid in a candy store would express.

Let's embrace our wrinkles, our quirks, our forgetfulness, our stubbornness and all those hidden traits for which you always wanted time to improve – all because life at 70 is one heck of a ride – a Free ride!". At seventy, every laugh line is a badge of honour, and every extra day is a reason to celebrate.

So, while parting, look for the spark in each other's eyes and WINK – it's a friend's way to say 'Thx for being my pal!'
Cheers to us, the sassiest septuagenarians - grateful for still being around to celebrate our GJ reunion. Thank you Life!



MY YEARS IN INDIAN ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICE

Successor to The Steel Frame
Dharampal Singh Poonia

Yes, the IAS is the successor to the ICS known popularly as the “steel frame” of India. The ICS was a Service created to serve their colonial masters. In contrast, the IAS is a Service that serves the people of democratic India. The IAS Officers are Indians who take an oath at the LBS National Academy of Administration to serve the people and to protect the Constitution of India. The IAS Officers are expected to assiduously work behind-the-scenes to implement policies of the Government of the day - Central or the State-within the confines of our Constitution. The initial years, after the training at LBS National Academy of Administration, Mussoorie, are tough especially if the Officer is posted in a State away from his Home State. The young Officer, generally just out of College or University, is required to adapt very quickly to the language, culture, food habits of his cadre State. And if the Officer is posted in a Northeast State, like I was, it's a real challenge to adjust and to survive. Those who adapt quickly enjoy serving a diverse set of culturally vibrant people inhabiting the Northeast. There are a few who drift or even drop out.

In the Northeast context, the probation period is the real challenge, with little support and assistance from local senior bosses. The first posting as a Sub Divisional Officer (SDO) brings to the fore the big responsibilities and extracts maturity from the young Officer, alone & still unmarried. Most often the sub divisional towns are small, remote & difficult to access and with few facilities. To cite an example, it can be tough to even find a cook to cook what you have been so used to all your life. Quick adaptation is the key to survival. Of course, life in the mainland States like Uttar Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra etc. is often comfortable & the young Officer gets a feel of the administrative power very early. Not so in the Northeast where even finding decent accommodation is a tough task. The IAS Officer gets a true feel of the administrative power once posted as a Deputy Commissioner/ District Magistrate & Collector. Both the support & the infrastructure is better at the district level and this is the stage at which the IAS Officer has the autonomy to serve the people and make an impact. He must be savvy enough to get along with the elected representatives, MLAs & MPs, who will invariably place demands often disconcerting to the young Officer. It requires a certain skill and maturity to perform while remaining on the right side of the CM, Ministers, MLAs & MPs as also the senior bureaucracy.

My service as Deputy Commissioner (DC) in Churachandpur District of Manipur State, a tribal inhabited district bordering Myanmar, was a pleasant experience. I could expedite the pace of implementation of development works and ensure uninterrupted foodgrain supplies in a perennially foodgrain deficit district. I loved interacting with the tribal people while trekking through hilly & wooded interiors of the district. I would patiently listen to their woes- most often centering around poor healthcare and educational facilities. School and Primary Health Sub-Centre buildings were in dilapidated state with hardly any staff available for teaching and providing medical care. Roads in rural areas were abysmal and we made efforts to improve them under various Government programs. Once posted in the State Secretariat, the IAS Officer finally gets integrated into the bureaucracy- long hours of file work, tedious meetings, inane minutes make the early Secretariat posting quite uninteresting. In the Secretariat, the Officer's ability to quickly absorb new concepts and to write/ dictate good notes, summaries & to conduct meetings with diverse set of Officers is honed. The need to get along with the Minister, who most often is very demanding, is of utmost relevance.

The Central Secretariat at Delhi is far more rules bound and it takes a while to get used to strictly following the rules & regulations. At the junior level the support is often scanty, and the Officer must rub shoulders with the wizened (and often unfriendly) Central Secretariat Officers. At the Joint Secretary level, the IAS officers are the core of any Ministry, and their contribution is well recognized. Every IAS Officer aspires to be a Secretary to the Govt. of India but just a handful out of each batch make it to those coveted posts every year. In the States, the highest an IAS Officer can rise to is the post of the Chief Secretary. There is keen competition among the IAS Officers for the top post. It requires a combination of factors to rise to the highest post in a State. That includes dedicated sustained work over the years, building bridges of competence and confidence both with the higher bureaucracy and with the political executive as an Officer who can deliver results across a spectrum of public services. Core competence required is the ability to co-ordinate effectively through the bureaucracy with vastly varying levels of competence. It goes without saying that the Chief Secretary must enjoy the complete trust & confidence of the Chief Minister and must develop a healthy rapport with the senior Ministers as well. I had the opportunity to serve as Chief Secretary of Manipur for over four years from 2009-13.



OUR XAVIER'S 1970 BATCH

T M Subranium

All of us had always wanted to fantasize about writing about our formative years and our school, sometime, one day. Finally, the auspicious moment arrived, though with no warnings or remonstrations, but quite suddenly and during an inane telephone call in a drunken stupor. As is often said, great things happen with small events: coincidence or happenstance, as Goldfinger once asked? An apple once fell on someone's head, and voila: gravity was discovered. Another eminent person, sleeping at the railway station, heard the change in pitch as the train came and left the station, and voila: the special theory of relativity was discovered. We all remember our formative years in high school, where we learnt to tie our shoelaces (most of us) or ended up tying ourselves in knots (some of us). A select few managed to solve the Gordian knot without cutting it open, mainly by escaping the school and the city itself. Others stayed back after high school, pursuing various professions of variable quality and varying values, secure in the knowledge that their extended families were always present and valued them at exorbitant valuations. The students of the 1970-71 batch were unique in several characteristics: some lacked character, some did not know its spelling, and some confused it with morality, immorality and immortality. Almost all went to the Character class run by Fr. Thotuvelil, but learnt nothing, becoming intriguing characters by themselves during their lives. A few idealized life, but had few ideals in life; several had ideas about life but spent their lives in an ideological vacuum. A select few had idiosyncrasies – one esteemed student thought he was Merriam Webster but sadly lacked the breadth of words printed in Roget's Thesaurus, which he confused with mythical Greek heroes like Theseus, Hercules and Perseus. Another esteemed student thought the most interesting place in life was his seat by the window in the classroom, looking out for the ice-cream truck. The patience expended in waiting for the truck to pass by, which never happened, enabled him to complete the IAS exam and become a distinguished civil servant.

We all fondly remember Fr. Ryan, Fr. Zubricky, Fr. Pinto and Fr. Zacharias: they instilled in us a love for English, 'black magic' and the cane. Sometimes, the cane became a bend-over with the cricket bat, and several students had inflamed posteriors for life, like certain monkeys in the wild. Those students went on to achieve great fame in their future careers, either as wildlife photographers, or as wild denizens of the graphic arts. One of us, who became a wildlife photographer, fortunately managed to escape with his life when attacked by wildlife, who caught him photographing them when they were involved in sedentary mating rituals. One student has the enviable record of receiving negative marks in a mathematics test. The same was pointed out to Fr. Thotuvelil: in math, one can either receive a "zero" or some positive score, but rationally, never a negative score. Fr. Thotuvelil remarked that he had never seen such stupid answers in a math test. We made the student feel better by informing him that he was lucky that his grade sheet had the square of an imaginary number, a mathematical feat in itself. That observation perked him up for life; we understand that particular student carried his negative score as a badge of honour for life, and even wrote about it in "The Pink Badges of Courage", a weekly bulletin usually reserved for courageous civil servants and lawyers in the lower courts. He later on became a gentleman farmer, farming so gently that the plants refused to flower and seed, liking to live their sedentary life in his benign shadow, rather than procreate more progeny! Another batch-mate drove a tractor to school, and also became a gentleman farmer later on in life, or a farming gentleman, though none of us could figure out the difference. Kudos to both of them! We also very fondly remember Mr. Simon, Mr. John, Mr. Francis, Mrs. Brar, Mrs. Malaviya and a host of other teachers who shaped our nascent persona and later lives. Mr. Francis had once a physical interaction with one of us, but everything was satisfactorily resolved in the school library, without any other reactions: the first proof that Newton was wrong with his third law. The student was later nominated for the "Ignoble Prize", which came with plenty of incentives and blandishments, though! Both parties read some episodes out of Ernest Hemingway's "Farewell to Arms", under the watchful eyes of Mr. Asrani, our librarian and libertarian. They, however, chose to completely ignore George Orwell's "Homage to Catalonia", which revealingly informed us about their ideological imbalance between fascism and communism. All our batch mates' success can be credited to our teachers. Our failures, au contraire, can be traced to our own batch-mates, who had a big hand in our failures, being ambidextrous. All of us are happy with our spouses, singularly and collectively, with good marital, material and

Cont. next page....



marsupial relations. Though it is a fact of historical fiction that Milton wrote "Paradise Lost" when he got married, but wrote "Paradise Regained" after his spouse's death! As they say, 'a man may propose, but the Woman disposes'. That probably was the beginning of the world-wide plastic micro-fiber environmental contamination!

While the Padres and teachers always had the upper hand on us students, we students always used our hands, in various arts and crafts, artfully and unartfully! Needless to say, all of us had learnt to use our hands soon after achieving puberty, especially in the school hostels. All the students from our batch, who, later and conveniently, became eminent doctors and surgeons, had learnt the expert use of their hands in high school, in critical geometric configurations, especially used in invasive, non-invasive, invisible, visible, viable and non-viable surgical procedures, ophthalmologic and laparoscopic surgery, as well as surgery not assisted by intelligence or artificial intelligence. Kudos to all of them!! Quite a few of our batch mates ended up in the armed forces, where they earned many medals for exhibiting extraordinary bravery and gallantry, conducting themselves in extremely dangerous situations very courageously and dexterously, handling arms and explosives with their bare hands and feet, very tactfully, tactically or taciturnly. A few grew up throwing marbles in the school hallway to excite the Padres into a panic, but finally lost all their marbles over their extended life. We salute them with all our appendages, and remember them for their bravery, bravura and bravado. Kudos to all of them!! A non-select portion of our batch went on with their lives, left Jaipur, and became pseudo- engineers of questionable quality. Several priceless and value-less engineering products were designed and fabricated by them, as well as many ingenious products of questionable impact on homogeneity, humanity, and homo-generosity. The world continues to warm in both global and social temperatures, but our engineering batchmates consistently underestimated their effects on benign and benevolent human activity. They had obviously forgotten our English and math-economic classes (taught by Fr. Zacharias to a select four on Saturdays - we were worried about other issues, not just new math) and the lessons taught therein, understanding the issues between differentiation and integration, differentiating costs and benefits, price and value, sense and nonsense, sensibility and sensitivity. Many have finally come out of the closet, but need their GPS to know where they are going. No Kudos to any of them!!

Most of our batch mates have been very successful in life, though a few were only successful in negotiating their pathway backwards. Life is never simple, but always finds a way!! Some ended up in the civil services, and others in business and various sundry activities. None have been accused of malfeasance, mis- feasance or non-feasance, which is an excellent example of morality, immorality, immortality, character, moral science and general incorruptibility. None of them can speak extempore, but all are very voluble in contained environments like social media, or in their bathrooms and bedrooms, singing and dancing in high spirits (hic)! Several got their mental exercises by jumping to conclusions, akin to Oscar Wilde. Kudos to all of them!! Special Kudos to those of our batch who chose to stay in Jaipur and launch various enterprises, against all prevalent odds, with or without family support!! They are the shining beacon of our batch's achievement, and the light at the end of the tunnel, even if it is forever hidden under a bushel!! We extend our thoughts and prayers to the families of our batch mates who have passed away. May all these families live in peace, prosperity, good health and good spirits. What may be of value to one person may be of none to another, as exhibited by the current crypto-currency craze. A craze can become a rage, but a rage seldom results in a craze! Quite a few of us lost our life savings in the crypto-craze, and some descended into a murderous rage. Luckily, better sense from Webster's and Roget's prevarications prevailed, and all of us have learnt to differentiate between value-less and priceless tokens, fungible and non-fungible euphoria and exuberance, excitement and incitement. Common sense, unfortunately, is quite uncommon, as attested by the current political and social scenario all over the world.

We also remember the extremely few who have disappeared from close, intimate and proximate contact, not keeping in touch with us batch mates, and assure you their behaviour is inexcusable! We trust they will repent and return to the fold, since the prodigals are always welcome, forgiven and excused, not excised or exonerated. However, no kudos to these few inexorably impudent batch mates. Repent, return to the fold, stretch out your hands, and be caned, or thou shall suffer the eternity of the hot, inhospitable nether regions enumerated in mythology!! All said and done, our batch of 70-71 was, very specifically, very special: never in the annals of history have so few affected the lives of so many in such an insignificant, incongruous and innocuous manner!! These jokers will accredit the essay to me but let me tell you it's concocted by Chibba, Tarun and Zakir. Curse them not me for this jabberwocky.



Anecdotes

As we grow older, our memories get boring
but our anecdotes get more spicy.



JUST ANOTHER DAY IN PARADISE

In the Memory of Dilip Tandon

Arun Kaul



The brain has a capacity of 2.5 petabytes but how does it select memories to retain. I feel emotions and feelings associated with the event determine retention. A day is vividly retained in the labyrinth of my upper story even after five decades, a roller coaster day, leaving a taste – that of coffee. The three of us Raj, Dilip and self, ventured a trip to Kashmir, we were in 10th Std then. We were more than classmates, family friends as well; permitted to go by ourselves, assured by our heights, both Raj and self were six feet and Dilip with his sweet and charming dimple smile. “Daffodils” as Wordsworth would say, focusing on the day etched, visit to Pahelgam. We were staying at my uncle's place in Srinagar. Morning assembly, we calculated the days spending and pooled with Raj, our fiscal controller. We were careful of expenses as we were frugal travellers on a shoe string budget, only the shoe was a size smaller. We stepped out, the cold fresh breeze hit us, a riot of colors in the front yard, roses of all colors and hues, even a black one – something we had never seen in our desert capital. We walked half a mile to the government bus stand to board the bus to Pahelgam for a day's trip, we could not afford to spend for a night stay. It was a three hours drive, we boarded a bus which would touch Verinag and Kockernag tourist spots. We would use the half hour stop at each place to do the touristy thing. It was mesmerising, the beauty of nature, tall Pine trees flanking, the road parallel to the Jhelum for a stretch, it was sheer romance at first sight.

At the first stop, we visited the source of Jhelum – Verinag – sipping cold crystal clear water at the place Jhelum is born. The second stop is where it all happened. Kokernag has a set of seven springs and a place sought by the tourists. The bus stopped at walking distance from the springs – the water so cold we realised we could chill a beer in no time. Walking back, we saw a group of teenage girls pass us – Did they pause? A flicker of recognition? – Was it imagination – we surely didn't concoct the smiles – surely they were talking about us. Our hearts in flutter – the closest we had been to girls was the MGD walls. The moment of pleasure passed as they went out of sight. Suddenly we found an Army jeep at speed pull up next to us. “*Aap log Jaipur se ho?*” The smart Jawan behind the wheels asked us. As we nodded he went on “*Aapko CO sahib ne yaad kiya hai.*” Dwarfed by the jawan and comforted of the fact that we had not misbehaved, we got into the Jeep. As he drove into a large manicured bungalow, we saw the group of girls along with their mothers in attendance. The “CO Sahib” a Lt Col joined a little later as we were hosted to lunch. My first insight of the fauj life and culture – The parents had hosted us just because their wards had placed us from Jaipur – it was overwhelming.

We reached Pahelgam, driven in the same army jeep – The three of us in seventh heaven, heady with the proximity of teenage girls who had recognised us – each of us assuming he was Rajesh Khanna. Don't remember too much of Pahalgam except strolling up the Lidder river and having omelette bread on the roadside. It was late evening when we boarded the bus back – An exciting day not knowing more was to follow. We reached Srinagar by 8 pm. We decided to have a meal outside so as not to inconvenience the folks we were staying with at this hour of the night. We stopped at the first nondescript restaurant – constrained by our pockets. Raj took the menu – calculated the bill from the price given against items – and ordered. The bill when presented shocked Raj – it was over the money we had with us – the taxes apparently had been missed out. Embarrassment in foreign land, we dug deep – knowing there was not any money with us. We had to get the amount from home. None wanted the scrutiny of the waiters. We did a 'Sholay' – we tossed the coin and I lost. Raj suggested I order coffee and sip it slow to make it last. And so I did the first coffee, then the second and finally the third. I remembered the LP record at Raj's house of the “Longest Day” – it just felt like that. Finally they turned up grinning “What took you so long?” “Oh uncle started chatting with us”. All this while I was under scrutiny.

Over time the taste of friendship and coffee still lingers.



THE PORCUPINE QUILLS

Or How To Pull Your Teacher's Hair And Get Caught!

Pavan Shorey

This incident happened in the 10th Science class of Father Totuvelli. Each student was given some practical task. Fr Totuvelli was moving around inspecting what the boys were doing. When he was busy talking to one student, Ramesh Tandon had a brainwave. He challenged Rajendra Singh to hold a hair strand on Fr Totuvelli's bald head. They were three of them, stiff like Porcupine quills, some centimeters apart. The bet was taken by Rajendra Singh. He held the middle hair/quill on Fr Totuvelli's bald head. To Rajendra's ill luck, Fr Totuvelli bent down and immediately realized that someone was pulling his hair. He turned around and caught Rajendra in the act. Rajendra Singh, already dark, turned many shades darker with this grim foreboding that he would be expelled from school. His eyes begged mercy from the Father. Fr Totuvelli said, "You, you, always upto some mischief. 100 sit ups for you!"

Rajendra Singh was relieved and was ready to do 200 sit ups. Fr Totuvelli asked Yashwant Chaudhary to count the situps Rajendra Singh stated the sit ups. After he had done 20, Yashwant in a conspiratorial tone said, 'Do only 40, I will say you have done 100.' After 40 situps Rajendra Singh stood up. Fr Totuvelli came over and asked Yashwant, 'Has he done 100 situps?' Yashwant with a deadpan expression said, 'Father, he has done only 60.' Thus Rajendra had to do 40 more sit ups to wriggle out of a situation where any other Father would have slapped at least a grey card on him.

LOAFERS ON ROOF

Rajendra Singh Khandela

When you come out of the Physics Lab and go straight down the corridor, at the end turn right, you reach a class and then a door which normally remains closed. Once the trio of mischief makers, Ramesh, Pavan and me, managed to open the door and went up the staircase. On going up the stairs, we reached another door with a big lock on it, and a small ventilator along it. We decided to go on the roof through the ventilator the height not being more than a foot. We brought a chair lying nearby to reach the ventilator. Tandon opted to go first, so he climbed the chair and with our help managed to wriggle through easily, being thin. Next was Pavan. He was flabby during those days, got stuck so Tandu had to pull and I had to push his torso up which made him burst out in laughter. Huffing and puffing, he eventually made it to the roof. I was the last but with the help of the two on the roof, managed to climb up. 'If the priests see us, we will be expelled!' Tandon said gravely 'I will say that Tandon led us here, we are innocent!' Pavan said flippantly. 'Dont fight, just savour this moment. I think we are pioneers in climbing to the roof. We should get some medal.' I said with an air of pride. Tandon sighed, 'I wish I had a smoke here!'

"I wish I had a beer here!" I piped in. 'I wish I could fly from here.' Pavan said wistfully. The view from the roof was phenomenal, a panorama seldom seen in those days. Suddenly we saw a father approach from the fathers' quarters. We bent and nearly crawled to the ventilator. Coming down through that ventilator was a very difficult task. We had to lie down flat on our stomach with legs towards the ventilator and push ourself backwards so that the legs go down first. I tried first with lots of difficulty managed to come down. Then motu Pavan with lots of pushing and pulling was able to come down. Tandu too managed to squeeze through. We, the loafers on the roof, a feat seldom undertaken by students. What an experience!!!



ANATOMY OF A BOMB BLAST

Ramesh Tandon

It was around Diwali time in the year 1970. For a change the school had turned into the LOC, with bombs blasting in the staircases, bathrooms etc. Michael Jain & Karni Singh were doing their job perfectly. It was fun to see Junia and some other Padres running around to catch the culprits but to no result. Pavan asked me 'Where do the culprits vanish?' I told him that are probably using some sort of a timing device like a cigarette or an incense stick to the base of which the bombers stick a fuse. So, I told Pavan that we should also plant a bomb and watch Junia running around. But by then, the padres and Junia had become wise to the modus operandi and had started to patrol and sniff around the corridors and bathrooms like sniffer dogs in each interval. So the issue before the trio of me, pavan and Rajendra Singh (of khandela, as he used to write proudly after his name, to declare his blue blooded lineage), was where and how to do it? But then Rajendra Singh (do not forget the of Khandela part) was also known as Uptohistrix, thanks to the Asterix comics that Nihal, the Obelix, had in abundant supply. (By the way, Pavan was known as Cacaphonix). So Mr Uptohistrix came up with a solution. He too started running after blasts with Junia & Padres and discovered that they never checked the staircases leading to the roof. The second issue was that there should be no smell or smoke emanating from the timer. Ashok Parnami solved the first issue about smell by giving me some raw agarbatti sticks that had not been perfumed yet. Uptohistrix had already solved the issue of unpatrolled areas. But smoke *ka kya karey?* It would have floated down the staircase into the corridors. A dead give away for Junia n the Padres. So, one evening, in the cricket nets, I asked Yashwant Chow, to hit one up on to the roof. Chow willingly obliged. Next morning, I asked one of the peons to unlock the wooden door to the roof and fetch our ball. As he removed the lock and opened the door and went searching for the ball, I vanished with the lock n key. He had no option other than to close only the wire mesh door. The stage was set. During the second small interval, the three of us went up the staircase to the roof and planted the bomb near a well ventilated wire mesh door. The bell rang and the three of us came and sat in the class, very very straight faced, with heart beats that could be heard. And five minutes later, a satisfying, ear bursting explosion. Even more pleasing was the sight of Junia and the Padres running around to catch the culprits. We had managed to fool the school police like professional terrorists. But after the blast, Shailesh looked towards me smilingly. Actually he had seen the bomb and incense stick in my bag. Thank you Shailesh, for not tattling.

DEDICATED TO ALL MY BATCHMATES

Nirmal Kumbhat

One day a Colonel Sa'ab from the Army, fell into a well. The soldiers would throw a rope into the well and pull the Colonel Sa'ab out. The moment the Colonel would come up, the soldiers would leave the rope snap to attention and salute. The Colonel Sa'ab would fall back into the well. This happened many times. Someone suggested that a Brigadier be requested for help-because HE wouldn't have to salute the Colonel. So one Brigadier Sa'ab arrived. He threw the rope into the well and the Colonel Sa'ab grabbed it. The Brigadier Sa'ab began pulling the rope. As soon as the Colonel Sa'ab reached the top of the well, he spotted the Brigadier Sa'ab. He immediately left the rope and saluted. And he fell back once more, into the well. There was total silence. Then ... Then everyone heard the desperate Colonel Sa'ab's voice from down below: "You idiots - get hold of a batch mate !!!"

MORAL OF THE STORY:

Classmates ARE important ! They can save your life!



A NEW PHRASE IS BORN!

Pavan Shorey

Father Mayer, our English teacher of class 11 B, was a jovial guy, adept at laughing at his own jokes and generally amiable. One such afternoon, he entered the classroom in a foul mood, started picking faults in the homework he had corrected. The boys were teenagers with rebellious hormones flowing in their veins, they could take it no longer. They stopped listening to him and started talking amongst themselves. Fr Mayer suddenly got up and said, 'I will not teach you.' He barged out of the door. Somebody shouted "Ghodi!" This was taken up by others and there was a crescendo of "Ghodi! Ghodi!" Suddenly the door opened, Fr Mayer's face, a crimson red like a Rhesus monkey's behind, trembling in rage He hollered, "I vomit you out! I vomit you out!" This phrase was new to us and we watched bemused. "I know you call me by the disrespectful name, Ghodi. I put in so much labour for you and this is what I get." He stopped for a few moments, looked at the class and raged, "I vomit you out!" He left, his face still crimson. All boys chanted, "I vomit you out! I vomit you out!" Thus, we were introduced to a new phrase by Fr Mayer. PS: A Google search indicates that the phrase comes from The Bible. Jesus says you are neither hot or cold but lukewarm, I spew(vomit) you out.

The Eighth Wonder of the World

Sumit Das

It was the class just after lunch. Father Zubricky was the teacher and was trying to get the sleepy class interested in the Midsummer's Night Dream. Full stomach makes one heavy lidded and the brain shuts off. Father Zubricky was extolling the subtle intricacies of the Shakespearean play. He had this habit of moving among rows of to make sure the students were awake, especially the back benchers. Me and Deepak Maheshwari were short in height hence we were condemned to the first desk. I was fighting sleep and on a glance sideways I saw Deepak in a trance, his eyes open, giving a vacant look. His lids were heavy and were threatening to close. Father Zubricky noticed Deepak, bent down and put his elbow on his desk and asked Deepak, 'What are you wondering?'

Deepak's spell broke, he saw father's face close to his and he shot up like a Jack in the box. 'Father, there are Seven Wonders of the World.' He rattled of the names of the wonders hurriedly. 'Deepak, you are the eighth wonder of the world, the boy who sleeps with his eyes open!' All Deepak could manage was a sheepish smile.

FROM THE HEART OF THE POET

Poems from our Batch Boys



XAVIER'S 70 BATCH A SPORTY GANG THEY WERE

Deepak Chibba



Dribbling & feinting big balls- footballs & basketballs,
Driving & hitting small balls hard & far -
baseballs & handballs

A few graced the calisthenics of gymnastics
The rest bet on ping pong or,
played the fool in the pool

What a thrill 'twas the cream roll & chilled soda
All in all for twenty five paisa

The gang spread far and wide,
Achievers all, they spoke of their school with pride,
and honored their coaches, teachers & guides
For what they gave to help them fly

Gang of 70
'Tis time to share the best of your life

Salud Kanpai Cheers !!

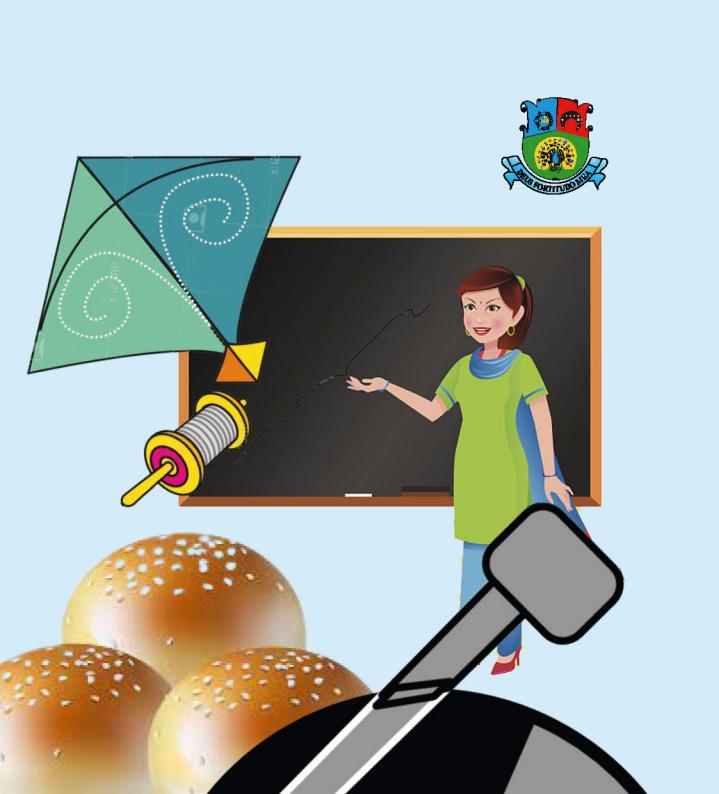


THE FLAVOUR OF XAVIER'S

Shailesh Srivastava



The era of Pareira,
The horror of Rebeiro,
The Saturday evening movies,
The papdi chat of Gopal, The milkshake and buns of the canteen,
The noise and bonhomie of the senior lounge,



The one of its kind handball courts,
The legendary upper and lower fields, Baseball in "that" time,
The 'Mardadi' which we played in the interval, The kancha experts,
The competition of manjha fighting close to Sankranti,
The elocution competitions and the dramas enacted,
The kites and vultures gracefully hovering above
waiting for the right opportunity,
The exact angle of their approach,
The antics of us all in the Jungle Jim,
The histories of the laboratories,
The hard day when we got a card,
The dreaded array of pink or grey,
laughter in the air, friends beyond compare,
crazy classroom antics, schoolmates forever,
our bonds we will endeavour and make stronger day after day



The passion for Pande, the swaying of Samrat,
The chances we took with Francis,
The fizz of Braz, was enough to make unforgettable memories
Extross, Mayer, Pinto, NL Jain, SD Sharma, Nair, Brar, Elizabeth, Malvea,
Ms Sinha, Ms Lal, Sirkar, Grace, Cosgrove, and other teachers
who guided us with wisdom and care, leaving lessons we never forget ,



They were the ones who nurtured and built.
They were the ones who had an understanding and forgiving heart.
They are the ones who looked for the best in people.
They left people better than they found them.
We are fortunate and forever indebted
to each and every one of them

Many thanks for memorable moments
which will be cherished lifelong.





70 GOLDEN JUBILEE

Zakir Hasan Khan

St. Xavier School

70 Golden Jubilee

यादों की एलबम

इककीसवाँ सदी में आज जी रहे हैं जब कि हम छोटी सी उंगली पकड़के बचपन के उस जाकरी की पचास साल पीछे मुझको ले गई है जिन्दगी खोली है आज मैंने फिर यादों की अपनी एलबम कानी-सफेद और रंगीन, तस्वीरें ही तस्वीरें स्कूल का मेरा पहला दिन है याद अभी तक भी मुझको कल ही की बात हो जैसे कोई वे झूले, वे स्विमिंग पूल, वह कैन्टीन और वह लाइब्रेरी टिफिन, नाश्ते क्रीम गोल वे कार्पिक्स और स्टोरी बुक्स खेलों के वे मैदान अपर फील्ड और लोवर फील्ड खेलें थे क्या क्या खेल कई क्रिकेट, फुटबाल, बास्केटबाल, हैंडबाल, जंगल जिम, तैराकी, फोटोग्राफी वह डिब्बेट, वह इलोक्यूशन रखे हैं अब भी जिन के मैडल घर की किसी अलमारी में सोशल सर्विस याद है, वह लोप्रेसी होम, गरीबों को राशन तकसीम यह खिद्दमत का जज्बा हम में शायद वहीं से पनपा होगा स्कूल के दोनों और दोनियों हों जैसे झूपड परिदंडों के हपदम भी जो थे, दमसाज भी थे खुशरंग भी खुश पिजाज भी थे सुरेन्द्र दासवारी, आदित्य सोमानी, धर्मपाल सिंह, तरुण झुनझुनवाला, देवेन्द्र सुराणा और शैलेष, रमन शारदा, नरेण जोशी, दलपत सिंह, पवन शोरे, सुनील हनू और सुधानिधि, करण सिंह, रामसिंह, दलपत सिंह, अनिल सतीजा, अनिल कुमार और अनिल कासलीवाल अजय जैन, राजकुमार जैन और माइकल जैन, दीपक छिब्बा, दीपक महेश्वरी और श्रीकांत और इन सब यादों से बढ़कर हमारे वे टीचर मंहरबान सरों पर हो जैसे सायावान मिस जॉर्ज से फादर परेरा तक, आँखों में बसे हैं सब चेहरे वो मिसेज बरार और मिस सरकार.... मिलता था हमें जिनका प्यार मिस पी. मिहा, मिस्टर ब्रैंडन और टंडन और हुकुम नारायण परिंदत जी,

St. Xavier School

70 Golden Jubilee

फादर विलमस, फादर परेरा और जुबरीकी... हमारे मैटर फ्लोसफर हरेक साँस हम लोगों की है कर्जदार इन तीनों की ना वो होते ना हम होते, हम जो हैं उन की बदीलत हैं टीचर्स के अपने आज भी तो मकरूज हैं हम ममनून हैं हम अब वो सब खाक में सोते हैं हम उनकी याद में रोते हैं यादें हैं बहुत सी और कई... बारात हो जैसे यादों की यादों का शहर है यह एलबम खुल जाये तो करदे आँखें नम सफर से लौट के पुक्कर के हम अपने अपने कामों में मशगूल सभी हो जाएंगे तात्त्व मगर वह जेवियर की हर वक्त हमारे साथ रहे जिम्मेदारी घर दफ्तर की है सब से साथ ही दुनिया में शहरी भी जो हम हैं जिम्मेदारी, तो बन के सच्चे जेवियराइट हम अपने समाज के काम आएं हम अपने मुल्क के काम आएं जिन्दारी अपनी जब तक है हम यूँ ही मिल के बैठा करें मिल बैठें और मिल बैठ के हम यादों को अपनी ताजा करें फालदस ने बादा था जो लिया बादा वह हम को निभाना है आने वाली नस्लों के लिये कुछ छोड़ के हम को जाना है इककीसवाँ है जो सदी उस में कहता है कुछ और ही आयना स्कूल के पास से गुज़रो तो दिखती है वही बिल्डिंग मगर वह आस पास की खामोशी अब दूर दूर तक कहीं नहीं कहीं खोई खोई लगती है स्कूल के अब तो इधर-उधर है दौड़ीती भागती जिन्दगी हर चार तरफ हैं इमारतें हैं मोटरों का शोरगुल माहौल है सारा धूवाँ धूवाँ ऐसे आलम में कभी जी करता है दिल चाहता है जातुई दव कोई खाकर हम उसी दीर में जीने लाएं हम फिर से फरिश्ते बन जाएं फिर सड़क किनारे आके रुके लहराती हुई स्कूल की बम स्कूल जो हम को ले जाए जो हम को जेवियर पहुँचा दे ए काश कि आइना हम को मिस जॉर्ज से फादर परेरा तक वो चेहरे फिर से दिखला दे वो चेहरे फिर से दिखला दे

Zakir Hasan Khan



THE BENCHMARK WAS NEVER THE BENCH... THE BENCHMARK WILL NEVER BE THE BENCH

Ramesh Tandon
(With A Little Help from GPT)

In school, there was, is and will be, a unique and discreet subset.
A few rows of Back-Benchers, who were never afraid of a test.

These backbenchers took the longest breaks.
Took the longest to settle down.
Rarely would have done their homework.
Still, from teachers didn't evince a frown.

They were current on movies &
knew great stuff on sports too.
If our city had secret places to visit,
they'd already been there & done that too ☺.

They weren't good at academics but weren't bothered about it.
They were good in sports but would not bother others about it.

They were taller and heavier & some
had seen more summers than others.
Puberty struck them earlier.
One among them was a drummer.

They had magazines which front benchers didn't.
More glossy and re-readable at that.
There was an air of mischief &
a smile that complemented that ☺.

Except for the art class, the ones in our class were great artists too.
They'd draw on the desk,
art mentionable and unmentionable too.

They knew how to fly planes.
Land missiles on teachers and with a poker face,
lie with panache & credence.

Catcalls and comments,
came from them with a regular flow.
Assignments were jointly completed,
later than sooner they would show.

They were a nice lot,
happier than most others I'd say.
More at peace with themselves,
except on the results day.

Sports Day was the day they'd excel,
and make their class and house proud.
Win points and medals,
Be cheered by the crowd.

They had the colours on holi-day.
Their pen wielded ink too.
Their crackers resounded in toilets,
They had the gadgets and games too.

In time we met again,
in social media groups and reunions.
They've done as well as those in front rows,
the differences have melted since.

Happy then and happy now,
the backbenchers had a fair deal.
They must've slogged in between,
As good or better than front row, I feel.

It generally evens out in life,
whether you were at the front or at the back.
The benchmark was never the bench,
Or where they sat, front or back...



I AM STILL A YOUNG 60 SOMETHING

Pavan Shorey

I used to walk a kilometre in 10 minutes
Now I do it in fifteen

I get a little breathless, a little tired
But I am still fit like a teen
I am still a young 60 something

I get a muscle pull in my bums
Or a sharp pain in the back
Docs say it is aging
I say I am fit to lift a wheat sack
I am still a young 60 something

I get up from the bed
The whole world reels around me
My friends say Cervical Spondylosis
But I can easily bend over backwards for all to see
I am still a young 60 something

I get up twice at night to pee
My friends say it is Prostate
I have too many fluids at night
Guys, you have this negative trait
I am still a young 60 something

I see a beautiful women
My heart skips a beat
Where the mind goes, the body doesn't follow
All fantasies take a retreat
I am an old 60 something

द्रव्य

नरेश जोशी

पैसा यानी अर्थ
भौतिकी युग में

वास्तविकता का बोध कराता है
पैसा हिलता है, ढुलता है
कर्णभेदी व श्रुति प्रिय
आँखों में लालच का जाम झलकाता है।
पैसा हिलता है.....

पैसा मानव का मापदंड,
धनी का मद, निर्धन का दुखः बन
समाज का बंतवारा करता है
मानवता का गला घोंटता है।
पैसा हिलता है.....

पैसा प्रेम में दीवार बन
यारों का दुश्मन
आकोश से भरा

मर-मिटने पर आमादा
इज्जत को बेआबरू कर
खलनायक का रोल अदा करता है।
पैसा हिलता है.....

पैसा चमकता है, खनकता है
मन में लालसा की ललक महकाता है
इंसान बहके इस दमक से
सोना सा निखर जाये जीवन में।
पैसा हिलता है.....

पैसा हिलता है, ढुलता है
कर्णभेदी व श्रुतिप्रिय
आँखों में लालच का जाम
झलकता है।





PHOTO GALLERY

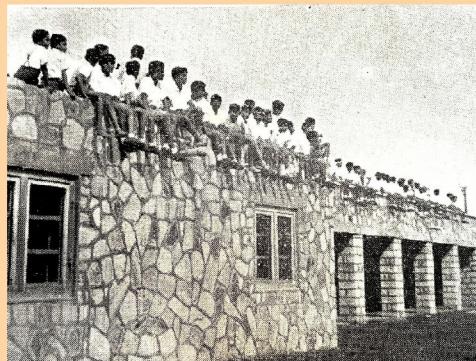
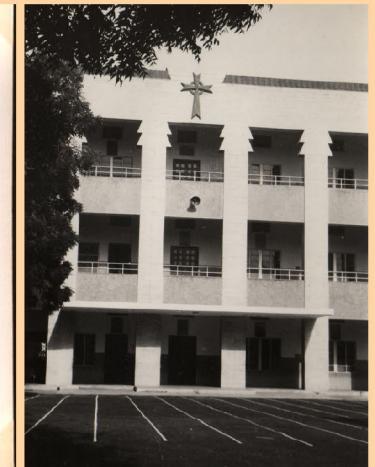
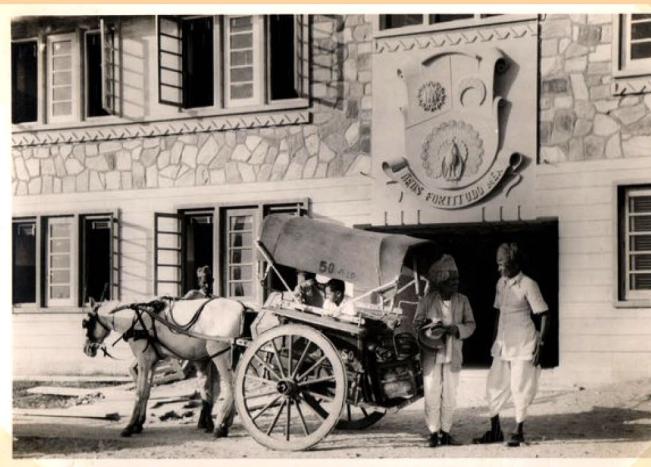
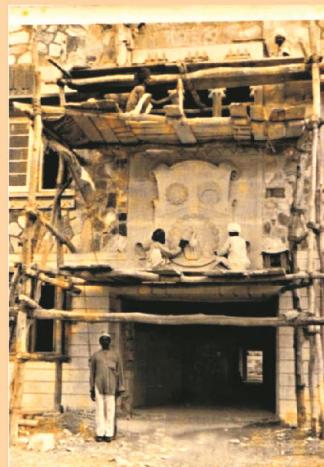
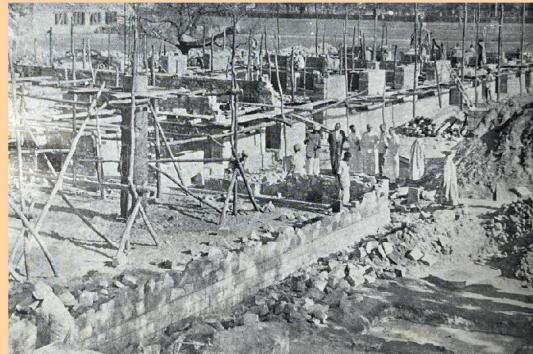
“Time it was,
and what a time it was,
it was a time of innocence,
a time of confidences.
Long ago, it must be,
I have a photograph
preserve your memories;
They're all that's left you”

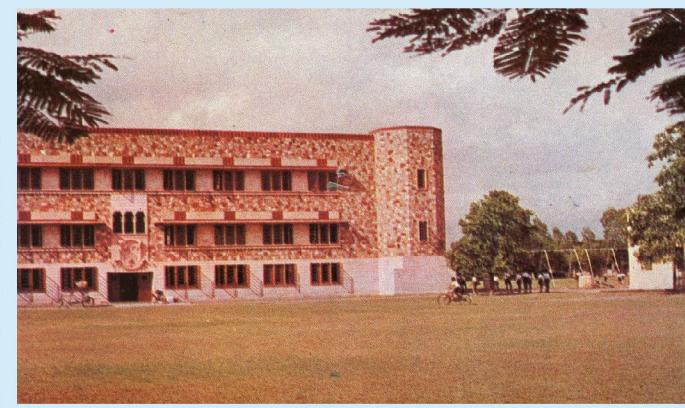
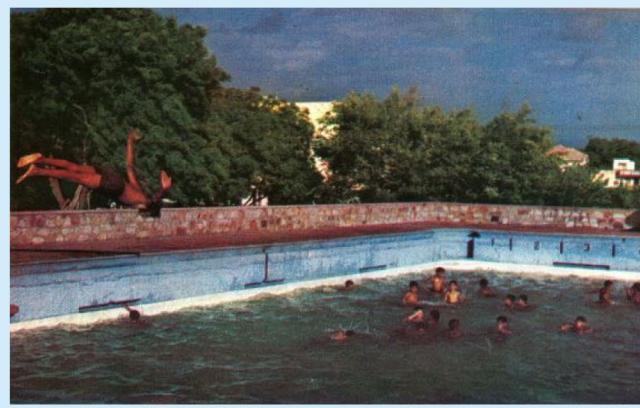
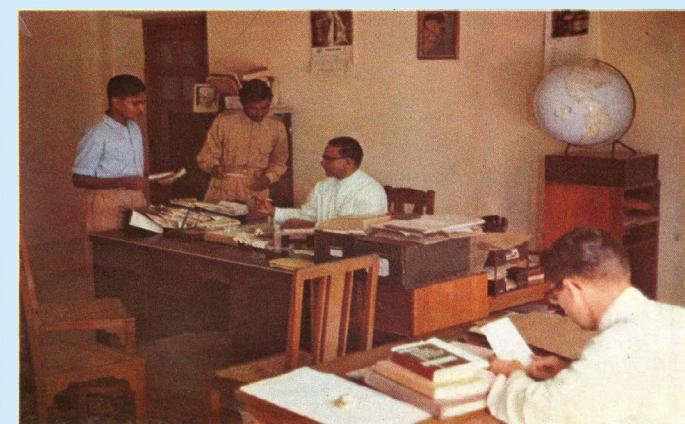
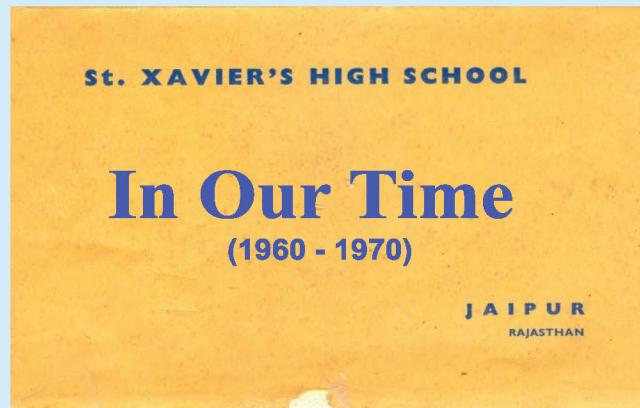
Simon Garfunkle 1968

Contents

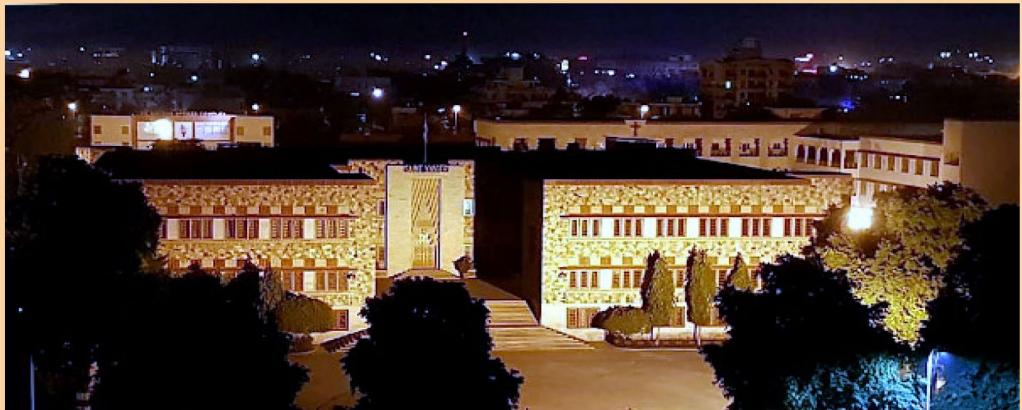
- Xavier's Then
- Xavier's in Our Time
- Xavier's Now
- From Pages of Blue & Gold
- Pushkar 1995
- Samod Bagh 2000
- Ranthanbhore 2004
- Bharatpur 2012
- Kitty Parties

ST. XAVIER'S THEN





ST. XAVIER'S NOW





FROM THE PAGES OF BLUE & GOLD

Anil Kasliwal, Ashok Pabuwal, Devender Surana, Rajesh Sharma, Srikant Bulakh & Sudhanidhi Kasliwal were among the first of our batchmates who joined St. Xavier's in 1958 & found a place in Blue & Gold of 1959. In 1970 our batch of 79 boys passed out of School. Since then we have been featured many times in the pages of Blue & Gold



1959



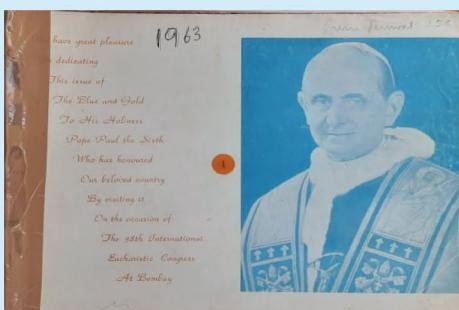
1960



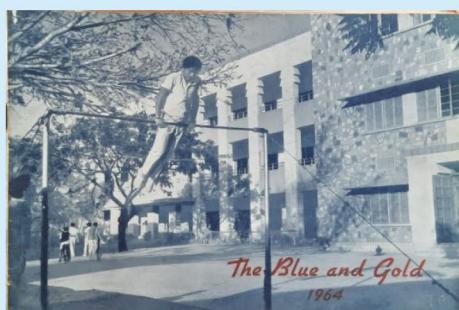
1961



1962



1963



1964



1965



1966



1967



1968



1969



1970

BATCH BOYS IN CULTURAL ACTIVITIES



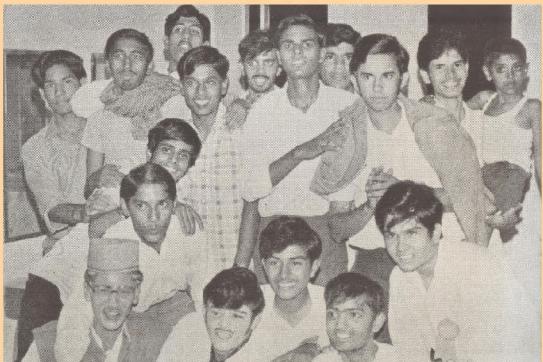
Photography Club



Images from Senior Common Room



Surender Daswani



Drama Finalist



Sunil & Anil Kumar



Glimpses from Gandhi



Pop Group



Dear Deepak



Dalpat Singh 'Dolly'



Tarun Jhunjhunwala



Micheal Jain



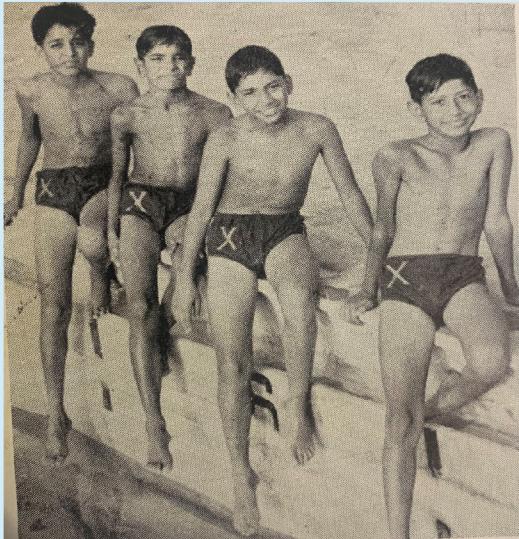
Zakir receiving Prize



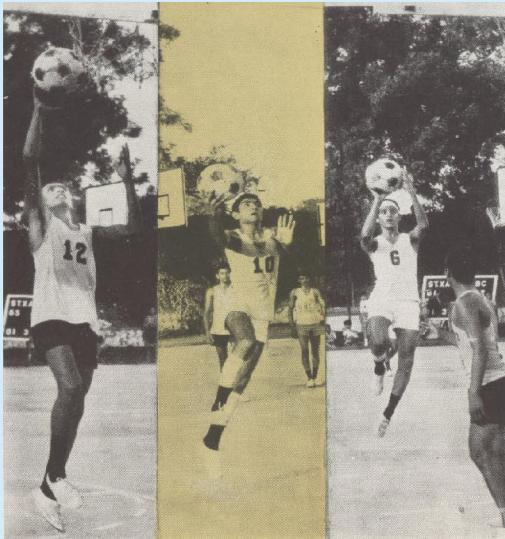
Korla & Sarda in Jailbird at Bay



BATCH BOYS IN SPORTS



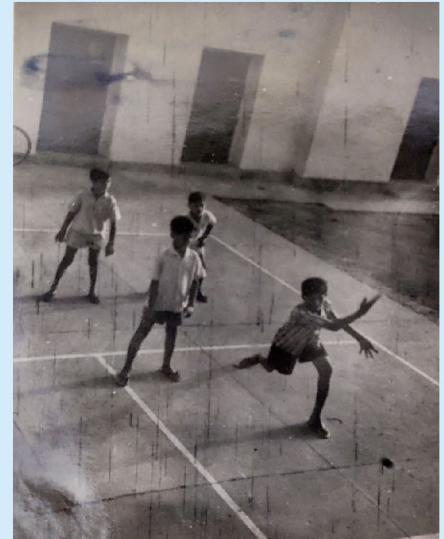
Rajiv Kanwar third from left



Raman, Dalpat & Sudhanidhi



Deepak Korla



Hand Ball



Football Team



Basketball Team



Hockey Team



Swimming Team



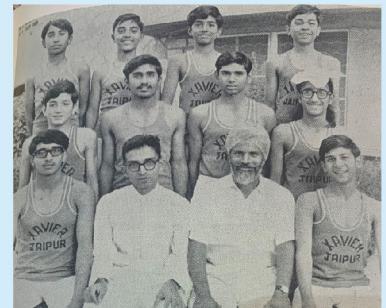
Table Tennis Team



T.T. Runnerup Ravindra Yadav

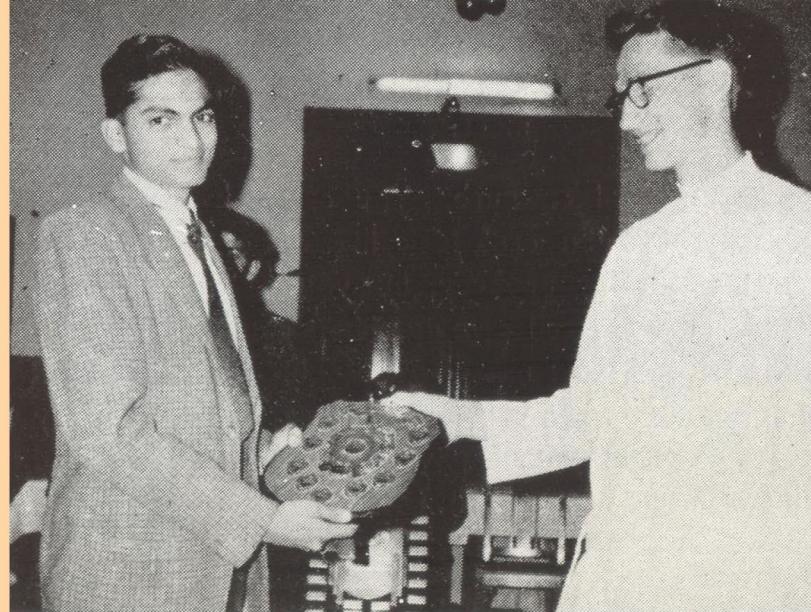


Ram Singh Ras with Trophy

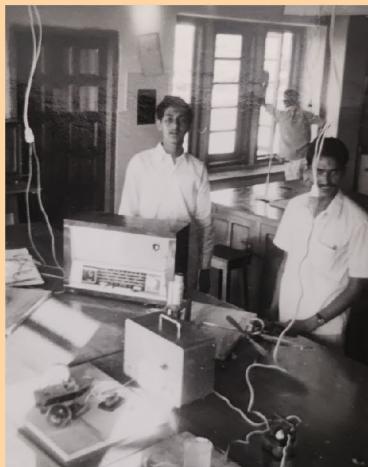


Gymnastics Team

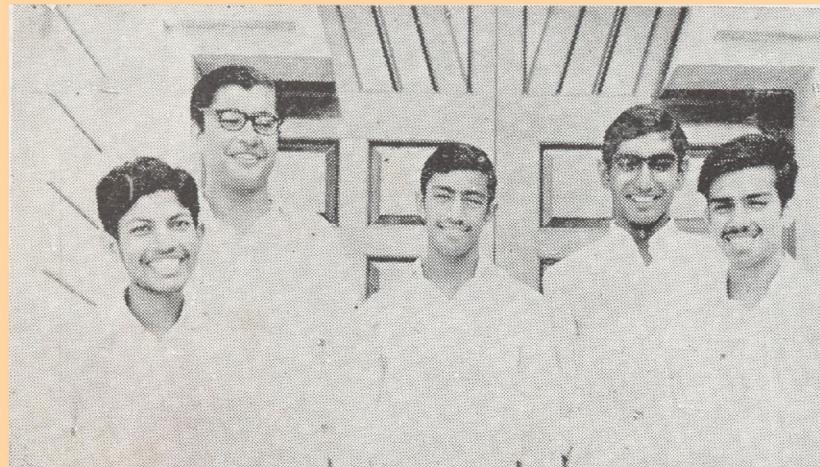
FROM THE PAGES OF BLUE & GOLD 1970



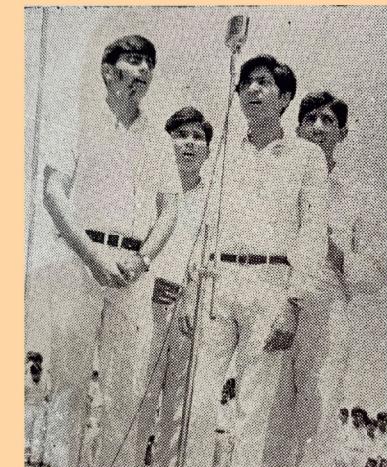
Xavier's Best Boy & Hostel Best Boy Trophy to Vinay Dharwadker



Physics Lab



Student Council: Secretary Zakir, Chief Justice Hoon, President Karni,
Vice President Dalpat, Joint-Sec. Mahavir



Singing National Anthem



CELEBRATIONS



1. Pushkar 1995 Silver Jubilee
2. Samod Bagh 2000 Millennium
3. Ranthambhore 2004
4. Bharatpur 2012

SILVER JUBILEE CELEBRATION

Col's Camp Pushkar 1995





SAMOD BAGH MILLENNIUM CELEBRATION 2000



RANTHAMBORE 2004





BHARATPUR 2012





KITTY PARTIES

Cheers



The batch boys in Jaipur get together with their wives once every now and then (supposedly every two months!) to catch up on what's-happening, dirty jokes and politics over drinks and dinner hosted by one of the members. While the drinks are on the host member, the women of the group contribute by bringing a dish to the table to help ease burden on the lady of the house. Here are some pictures of the Kitty Parties for the benefit of out-of-towner friends to share the experience.



Party hosted at Naresh's Farm 2019



Safa Party



Ashok Club



Roof top party at Shailesh's



Party hosted by Ajay Jain



Roof top party at Shailesh's



Basantt Khaitan's Do-It-Yourself Jalebi Party 2019





DIRECTORY



Class of 1970



Aditya Somanı I.S.C.



1970



Recent Pic

Date of Birth : 9th August 1954
Spouse : Vineeta
Wed. Anniv : 19th January
Address : 125/126, Queens Road,
Viduy Nagar, Jaipur-302021
Phone : 9414072020 / 9680042010
E-mail : adityajpr@yahoo.com /
asomani54@gmail.com

I joined school in 1962. I really enjoyed my term in St Xavier's. Superb education was imparted to all students. I was especially enamoured of Father Wilzbacher and Zubricky. I was lucky enough not to get a single card, pink or grey. Yes, I did get caned by Fr. Rebeiro once and got 5 bend overs for speaking in Hindi just beneath his office. I did my ISC in 1970. I did my B Com (Hons) from Commerce College, Jaipur, then MBA from R A Poddar Institute of Management. I did one year stint in MA (Eng. Lit). Then I joined the family business. I am married to Vineeta who runs her cooking classes and also caters home-made food of all varieties. She has received an award and certificate from Chef Sanjeev Kapoor. My son Vishrut is married to Sakshi, one time radio jockey with prestigious channels, is a single handicap golfer and has won several prizes. My daughter Aditi is a ballet dancer who is married to Nandesh Mansingka, Mumbai and has a daughter Taarini. She takes ballet classes and has staged several ballet shows.



Aditya and Vineeta



Aditya & Vinita with son Vishrut, grandson & daughter in law Sakshi



Family Photo at Daughter Aditi's wedding



Ajay Jain I.S.C.



1970



Recent Pic

Date of Birth : 20 April 1954
Name : Neelam
Wed. Anniv : 8 February
Address : 21, Mangal Vihar
Gopalpura Bypass, Jaipur
Phone : 9929090158
E-mail : ajainsunreign@gmail.com

After school I did B.Tech in Mechanical Engineering from IIT Kanpur & followed it up with M.Tech in Material Sciences, also from Kanpur. I got married to Neelam in 1982 and have an elder daughter Nidhi who is married to Anant Jain, a banker in Singapore. Nidhi is also working as Interior Designer in Singapore. I have two grand children Naira & Virangna. My son Abhinav is an entrepreneur working in London, U.K. He is married to Camille Salord.

I set up a computer data center in 1982 using 8bit microprocessor, the first in Rajasthan. Thereafter I started business in Solar Energy products in 1983. That was also a first in Rajasthan where we design and installed Solar Water Heating Systems for domestic application, innovative hybridization of solar and conventional systems for the hotel industry, innovative solar system design for component washing in automobile industry. We were the first in the country to install large solar desalination plants. We sold and maintained 20,000 solar pv home lighting systems in rural Rajasthan along with installing micro grids using solar pv. We executed installation works for large ground mounted solar power plants of MW size.

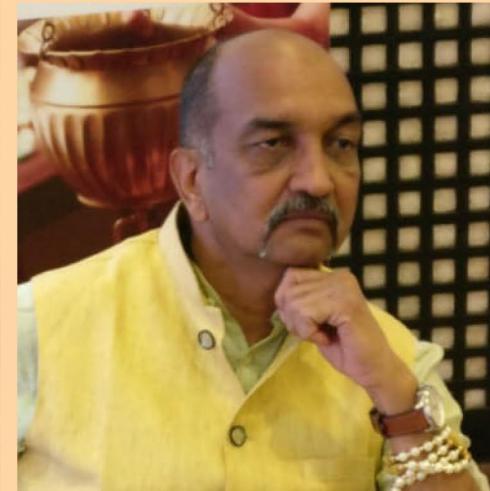
I am pleased to say that I coached the Xavier's basketball team for 5 years and won innumerable trophies. Also coached the SMS medical college and the Rajasthan state junior teams. Currently associated as a mentor with startup incubation centers such a) Start Up Oasis b) AIC JK Laxmipant Singhania c) AIC Banasthali Vidyapeeth. d) LNM Institute of Technology.



Neelam and Ajay



Family Portrait



Thoughtful Mr Jain



Daughter & Grand Children



Ajit Singh I.S.C.



1970



Recent Pic

Date of Birth : 22nd March 1954

Spouse : Renu Ranawat

Wed. Anniv : 22nd November

Address : A 208, Ashiana Greenwood,
Jagatpura, Jaipur

Phone : 9351331903

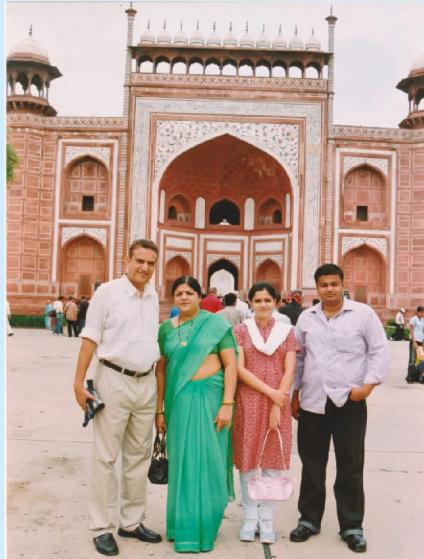
E-mail : aps220311@gmail.com

After school I joined Rajasthan College where I did History Honors. Thereafter I joined Rajasthan State Services in 1979 in the Accounts / Finance branch of the government. My first posting was with the local bodies. It was a confusing and challenging period when I worked in the RLDC (Rajasthan Land Development Corporation). I also contributed my bit to the development of the IGNP (Indira Gandhi Nahar Project). It was the peak period of OFD (On-Farm Development) works, leveling etc. In the JDA I was part of the team for land acquisition and development of Vidyadhar Nagar and subsequent allotment of land there. A very hectic and satisfying experience. During my posting in RTDC, I was involved in opening new tourism sites and running of the Palace on Wheels etc.

In the agriculture department I was involved in implementation of many government schemes. In the medical department I was part of the team for implementation of the 108 Ambulance Scheme. Posting in the Police and PHED (Public Health Engineering Department) gave me a feeling of despair, that all is wrong and things are not what they should be. In the RSRDC (Rajasthan State Road Development & Construction Corporation LTD) I had the satisfaction of having been part of construction of many rural roads. Another good phase of government service was my posting in RIICO. Neemrana industrial area, from its nascent form, flowered into its present state. Here I was on the board of RDPL and IDPL. I was also Chairman of REL, manufacturers of the first TV we all watched. During my service years, I came in personal touch with two fine human beings who were also Chief Ministers - Late Shri Shiv Charan Mathur and Late Shri Bhairon Singh Shekhawat. During my career I also had many fine bosses and colleagues, who became friends and enriched my life. I was married to Renu in 1983 and we have two children - one boy and one girl. Today I'm back in the pavilion (my village). Along with regular crops, I also cultivate vegetables in my 150 bighas farm near Alwar. All the land is irrigated by 8 tube wells. I also have a dairy and a food processing unit in Neemrana Industrial Area.



Ajit with Renu



With Son & Daughter

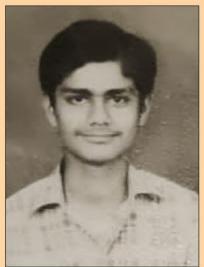


Holidaying in the Himalayas



Stern but Gentle Mr. Singh!

Anant Kasliwal A.I.H.S.



1970



Recent Pic

Date of Birth : 24th June 1954
Spouse : Usha
Wed. Anniv : 25th April
Address : Sb14, Bhawani
 Singh Marg, Bapu Nagar, Jaipur
Phone : 9829052596
E-mail : anantkasliwal1954@gmail.com

I joined St. Xavier's in 1965-66 in 6th Std. I remember baseball was played only at Padri School then. I played lot of TT with Pravin Bhargava, Vijay & Ashok Shah. Jungle Gym with Sarvatma Dayal, Sadiq Umer & Shri Prakash Rao. I played the role of Abha with Sunil Agrawal as Gandhi in a play directed by Mrs. Nigam. I have very fond memories of Fr. Pariera, Fr. Mayer, Mr. N.L. Jain, Shri R.L. Sharma, Mrs. Chapman, etc. After completing my school education, I graduated in Commerce from Commerce College, University of Rajasthan, Jaipur in 1975. While in Commerce College, Jaipur actively participated in organizing Ghumar 1973 Festival for the Raj. University by forming a team of some other Xavierites, including Dilip Tandon. Thereafter I did my Law School from Govt. Law College, Bombay University, Mumbai in 1978. As a law student at Bombay, as it was then known, I actively participated in the JP Narayan movement as part of Youth For Janata and in campaigning for Shri Ram Jethmalani & Shri Subramanyam Swami. From 1975 - 1981 I worked with renowned tax Lawyer Late Shri D. M. Harish. I returned to Jaipur in 1981-82 to work with Late Shri G.C. Kasliwal & Shri S. M. Mehta. I also worked as a Counsel for Income Tax & Sales Tax Departments. In due course set up Kasliwal Chambers jointly with my brother Sudhanshu. Both have since been designated by the High Court as Sr. Advocates.

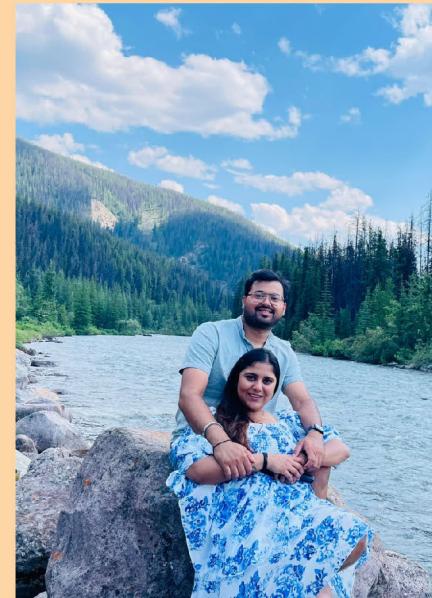
I married Usha from Dibrugarh at Jaipur in 1983. We have one son & a daughter. My son Shashank is an advocate, married to Charvi, an architect. My daughter Pallavi is a fashion designer married to Pranav Garg, MBA [Sydney] presently both settled at Calgary, Canada.



Anant & Usha in Moscow



Son Shashank & Charyi



Daughter Pallavi & Pranav



Senior Counsel



Anil Kasliwal A.I.H.S.



1970

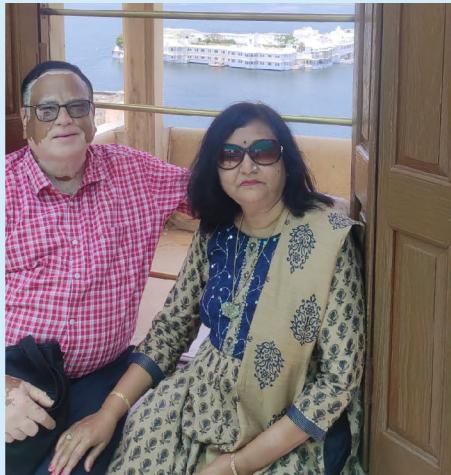


Recent Pic

Date of Birth : 30 April 1954
Spouse : Neeraj
Wed. Anniv : 22nd November
Address : B6A, Prithviraj Road,
C-Scheme, Jaipur
Phone : 9314516344
E-mail : Kasliwal1954@gmail.com

I joined St. Xavier's in 1958 as a little boy in KG. I had the good fortune of studying for 12 years making lifelong friends. After I left school I did B.A. (Hons) from BITS Pilani in 1974. After graduation I did my MBA from Faculty of Management Studies, University of Delhi in 1976. Thereafter I worked with Modi Continental from 1976-2002 and 2008-2012. During my tenure at Modi Continental I was posted at Cochin for 8 years where I was buying natural rubber for the Company and during that time I travelled extensively in South India. This was one of the best periods of my career. Unfortunately, our company went for a prolonged lock out from 2001 to 2008. I resigned from the company in 2002 and shifted to Jaipur in 2003. In the interim period 2003 to 2008 I obtained Diploma in Gemstone Identification and a P.G. Diploma in Travel and Tourism Industry Management from Indian institute of Tourism and Travel Management Gwalior but did not pursue this line as our company lockout was lifted.

I was rehired to head their Materials Management division with clear mandate to restart the plant at Meerut. I agreed to rejoin them in 2008 & within a span of 9 months we were able to roll out tyres for which my role was very much appreciated by the management. I finally retired in 2012 as GM Materials and shifted back to Jaipur. Now I spend my time in managing my property in Jaipur and playing golf at the Ram Bagh Golf Club as I am a member of this club. I got married to Neeraj who is home maker in 1978 and I have two sons - Avni and Nikhil. Avni had done his Bachelors in Computer Science from North Western University, Michigan, U.S.A. He has his own IT firm by the name Avnik Soft Tech. The younger son Nikhil is a Management graduate and currently working with Accenture as Senior Manager Finance in Gurgaon. He is married to Priyanka who is a CA and CS but currently a home maker. They have a son of 5 years who is studying in SMS Jaipur. I have all the time in the world to spend with my friends.



Anil with spouse Neeraj



Nikhil with family



Elder son Avni



Winning team of BOB Golf Tournament 2022

Anil Kumar A.I.H.S.



1970



Recent Pic

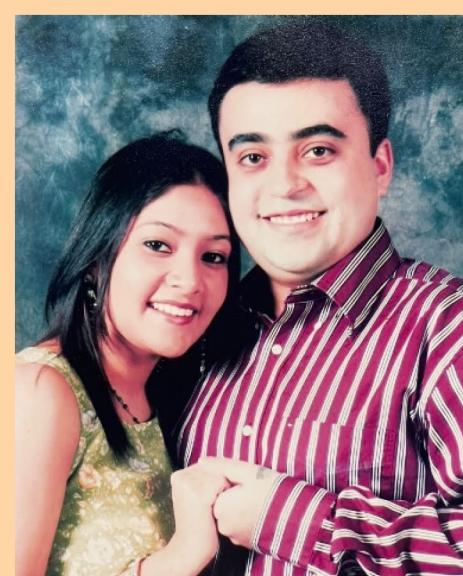
Date of Birth : 25th Sep. 1953
Spouse : Dr. Vineeta
Wed. Anniv : 25th October
Address : B-1, 1001 Uniworld City,
Sector 30, Gurgaon
Phone : 8905347272
E-mail : kumarmdr@hotmail.com

Joined St Xavier in 1959 in KG & studied up to the 11th standard. Was fairly good in studies. Serious sports were not my cup of tea. Cycling back home in a group of 5-6 close friends, cracking jokes, in a very thin traffic on Ashok Marg are very fond memories. Finished MBBS in 1977 from SMS Medical College Jaipur with University 3rd rank & Ophthalmology honors. Did MD Medicine in 1980. Was Awarded Gold medal.

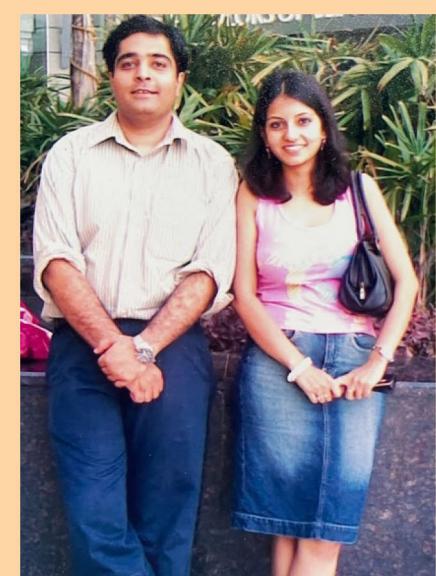
My wife, Vineeta is MS in obstetrics and gynaecology. Did medical practice, ultrasonography and color doppler studies covering obstetric, hepatic, renal, carotid and echocardiography scans. Ultrasound guided kidney biopsies were a routine procedure. Transrectal Prostate studies & guided biopsies were also done for years. I worked in our hospital till 2016 February, thereafter I retired on account of health issues. Vineeta worked in the hospital doing Ob-Gyn work apart from assisting me till 2018. After which both of us moved to Gurgaon. We have a son and a daughter. Son Vaibhav Kumar is a chartered accountant currently into stock trading & his wife Deeksha works in an MNC. Daughter Divya Bhalla married Sharad. She did BA psychology & is married into a business family of Kolkata. Both my parents were doctors. Father was a Chest surgeon (FRCS) and mother did Ob-Gyn in private practice in the town. I was blessed to have very nice and caring parents.



Anil with Vineeta



Daughter Divya with Sharad



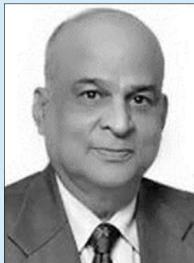
Son Vaibhav with Deeksha



Anil Ram I.S.C.



1970



Recent Pic

Date of Birth : 4th July 1954
Spouse : Kusum
Wed. Anniv : 19th November
Address : C-305, Sujjan Vihar,
Sec. 43, Gurugram-122009
Phone : 9625386511
E-mail : anilram48@yahoo.com

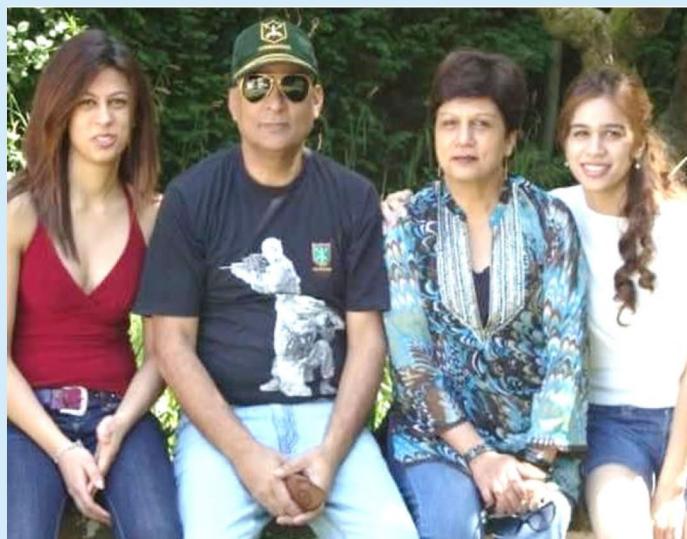
Joined Xavier's in 1964 in 5th, Mrs Sinha was the Class Teacher. Represented school in football, hockey and Rajasthan in Baseball, won Bronze in 3rd All India Championship in 1969.

Being 3rd generation Rajriffer, joined IMA in 1973, passed out in 1975, was 10th in the Order of Merit and was also awarded JAK RIF Gold Medal for Tactics and Junior Leadership. Commissioned into 6th Battalion The Rajputana Rifles. Instructor as Captain at Commando Wing, as Major at IMA, as Colonel at High Altitude Warfare School, as Brigadier Commandant of Counter Insurgency and Jungle Warfare School. Was the only one who has been instructor with three badges. Took part in counter insurgency ops in Mizoram, Assam, Nagaland, Manipur and Punjab. Commanded a brigade in Arunachal. Retired in 2010. A rugged mountaineer, keen skier and a never say die jungle warrior.

Inducted as DIG, adviser to DG CRPF for counter terrorism training, established COBRA School for Commando and Spl Ops. In 2012, appointed Principal of CRPF Academy. Finally hung my boots in Dec 2014. I have five women in my life. Wife, two daughters and two grand daughters. Married Kusum, a third generation JAT officer's daughter. History Hons from IP College, MA Hons (Gold medal), taught for 17 years. Blessed with two daughters. Pia, mother of twin girls, is working as IT Program Manager for Microsoft products and settled in Guildford, UK. Ria, the younger one is manager at GLG, Gurgaon; she is a motorbike enthusiast.



Anil with Kusum



Anil & Kusum with Daughters



Daughter Pia with her twins



Daughter Ria

Anil Satija I.S.C.



1970



Recent Pic

I hail from a Punjabi family with roots in (present) Pakistan. My parents, both doctors, settled down in Bharatpur soon after partition. I joined St. Xavier's School as a boarder in 1959. For a 6 year old, to be away from family for the first time, was extremely challenging. However, in a short time I was able to make friends. I had to earn my place! By wrestling an older boy and winning the bout. I proved myself worthy to be a part of their group. We played "Cowboys and Indians" shouting "Hands Up" and enacted scenes from the Saturday night movies we watched in school. One thing I missed terribly in the hostel was home cooked food. I took keen interest in sports and was a member of both the School Hockey and Football teams in 1969 and 1970. Later in life I played club tennis, was active in martial arts (karate) and also pursued photography as a hobby. I graduated in B.Com. (Hons) from Delhi University and trained in Hotel Management from the Oberoi Group. Thereafter, I worked as Assistant Manager at Hotel Oberoi Grand Calcutta where I met my to-be wife Camellia Dutt who was Assistant Executive Housekeeper. Later I started my own business of manufacturing and retailing Swiss Confectionary, (Rio Grande in Greater Kailash 1 Market, New Delhi), which was changed in 1985 to a lifestyle store. Camellia and I got married in 1981 and she joined my business. After 42 years we finally retired. Now we travel and catchup with friends and relatives. We are blessed with two daughters. Shivani, (Masters at SOAS, PhD from TISS Mumbai), is Editor of an academic journal, Gender & Development OXFAM, and lives in Delhi with her 5 year old daughter Aarunya. Ambika, my other daughter (Rhodes Scholar, PhD and Post Doc from Harvard University), is working at Analysis Group Inc. as Manager and lives in Boston with her husband Nick and five month old daughter, Ananta. Looking forward to catching up with school mates from our 1970 batch in Pushkar and hope to have many more reunions in the future!



Anil with Camellia



With Daughter Shivani and Aarunya



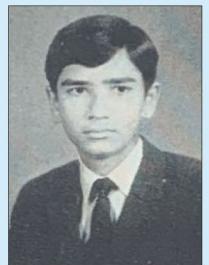
Anil with Camellia and Daughters



Daughter Ambika and Nick



Anil Vashist I.S.C.



1970



Recent Pic

Date of Birth : 21st August 1954
Spouse : Single
Address : C - 4 / 4018,
Vasant Kunj, Delhi-110070
Phone : 9810771763
E-mail : anilvashist9@gmail.com

I joined St Xavier School in 1968 January in class 9, as a day scholar. I loved the multi-coloured school building, and was impressed with the water fountains & the electric school bell and was thrilled to be able to bike to school. I became a boarder in 1970 and struggled to get the limited hot water for bathing!! Completed B.Sc. from Maharajas College while watching the Jat-Rajput rivalry in the college and its hostel. Got admission to JNU but was persuaded to join a "fictitious" M.Sc. Biochemistry course in the SMS Medical College. Escaped into SBI as a Probationer in 1975, giddy with a salary higher than the IAS. Rumour was that I was the youngest in that batch. Worked in SBI till 1995, in Gujarat, Delhi and the North East. Took premature retirement from SBI Merchant Bank as an Assistant General Manager. Thereafter I joined the Indian operations of Lazard Brothers for three years. Left as President responsible for the North India operations. Joined the Swedish telecom giant Ericsson in 1998 as Director. Was responsible for Treasury, Customer Finance & Investor Relations first for India and from 2000 for Ericsson's biggest market, China. Worked in Sri Lanka as the CFO till 2010 and then as the CFO of Ericsson's Services Division in India. I quit the corporate rat race in 2012, after 37 years, choosing to "trade time for salary", aiming for a new life doing things that I had not done before. Joined an NGO in western UP as a volunteer, living in the village three days every week. Set up a project for women's empowerment which by 2016 had connected 2500 rural women in 44 villages in financial, social and livelihood projects. Disassociated myself from the NGO after four years. Currently living in pure masti, always ready for new adventures.



On the trek to Triund Peak



My Leitmotif: Forever Free



Camping on Rattangarh Fort, W. Ghats



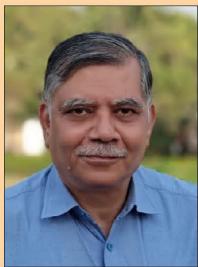
In Tibet on way to Kailash Mansarovar



Anuj Rajvanshi A.I.H.S.



1970

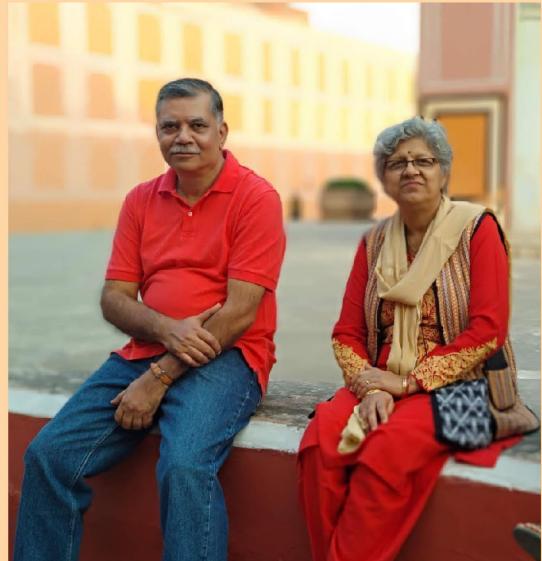


Recent Pic

Date of Birth : 12th May 1955
Spouse : Meenakshi
Wed. Anniv : 22nd November
Address : C-33, Piyush Path
Bapu Nagar, Jaipur
Phone : 7568686575
E-mail : anujrajvanshi@yahoo.com

I joined St Xavier in the 9th standard. I was first admitted in ISC but shifted to AIHS. I did my MBBS and MD (Internal Medicine) from AFMC, Pune. I superspecialised in Nephrology from PGI, Chandigarh. I retired from the army as a Brigadier. I joined Mahatma Gandhi Medical College as HOD, Nephrology and started the DM course there. I have been an Examiner for the DM Nephrology course for Pune, Rohtak, Mumbai and Kolkata. I work as a consultant physician and Nephrologist.

I excelled in chess and played for the Rajasthan University, was captain of the team at Pune University. Father Pereira remembered me 5 years after I left school. I remember the well stocked library and the Saturday night movies. Senior boys recreation room is still fresh in my memory. My wife is Meenakshi and my son is Porush.



Anuj & Meenakshi



Young Army Doctor



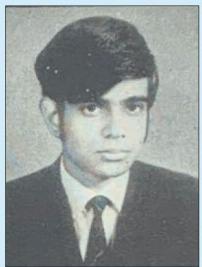
Anuj & Meenakshi



Son Porush & Family



Arun Hooja A.I.H.S.



1970



Recent Pic

Date of Birth : 2nd August 1953
Spouse : Single
Address : A-15-A, Vijay Path,
Tilak Nagar, Jaipur -302004
Phone : 0141-2620087

After my All India Higher Secondary Examination, 1971 from St. Xavier School, Jaipur and after finishing College at Jaipur, I undertook a course of National Council For Training and trained for Hotel industry. I worked with ITDC at Yatri Niwas Hotel, Delhi for several years. In 1986, with a group of friends, I, along with my father, undertook a Peace Yatra to several countries in Europe and UK. Whenever opportunity was available I travelled to Manipur, Bengaluru and Jodhpur-Jaisalmer, Agra-Fatehpur Sikri among other places, to spend quality time with members of my large spread out family. On moving to Jaipur in 1988, I devoted myself to taking care of my aging parents. We always cherished the frequent bout of Chess and Board Games. I periodically organised social get togethers for Senior Citizens. Along with all this I attended to residential needs of young interns who would come to Jaipur for short stay. I was an active member of Indian Red Cross Society, Rajasthan State Branch in the 1990s. For several years, I helped in the work of my family's charity organisation for giving Scholarships to needy students. Am fond of looking after plants and pets, I now live a retired life with my Bhabhi and Brother and their children and grand children and keep in close touch with all Family members at Jaipur, in India and abroad, playing host to them whenever they visit Jaipur. My day starts with listening to early morning Radio News programs and during the day I tune on to old songs and music besides watching T.V. May we all stay healthy and happy and remember the good old school days. My love and affection to one and all.



My Family

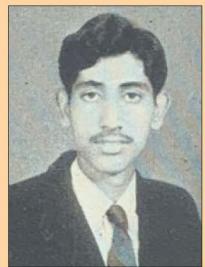


With Cousin Dr. Anu Sayal

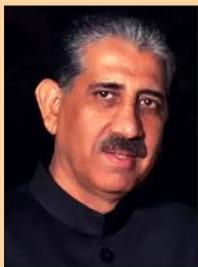


A Relaxed Retired Life

Arun Kaul A.I.H.S.



1970



Recent Pic

Date of Birth : 16th Jan. 1954

Spouse : Indira

Wed. Anniv. : 2nd February

Address : L 48 Glade One,
Sanand Bawla Road,
Nani Devati Gujarat 382220

Phone : 9824044241/6354863467

E-mail : arun54kaul@gmail.com

It has been an interesting journey of life till now. All credit goes to our school for providing an environment that has shaped me. I went to college at Delhi University and did my graduation in English (Hons) from Hans Raj college & post graduation from St. Stephens. The university environment was very enabling and I came into my own. The next phase of life was vocation and I was very fortunate to have found my way into the Indian Air Force, an honorable service in which I spent 20 unforgettable years. After equipping myself with an MBA from FMS, Delhi University I opted out wanting to challenge myself in a different environment. I served the private sector for a decade and a half initially with Arvind as the group head HR for a decade and then as an Executive Director with Shalby hospitals. In my mid 50's I got my calling of creative writing and took that up full time. My first book, a compilation of true short stories, was published in 2014. One true short story was adapted by Star Plus for a program called "lakhon main ek". My second complete work "Where Lines Cross" is currently with the publisher Om Books & is likely to be published by early next year. This family saga took a long time coming and is an essence of my own life and of values which I espouse. I'm currently in the process of writing my third book. This final quarter of my life I am also associated with Air Force Association which provides welfare of retired Air Force personal residing in Gujarat as well as inspiring young generation for a career in defense. My wife Indira was also working for SBI and has retired. My daughter Geetanjali is settled in Dubai along with her husband Viren and my grandson Abhimanyu. I hope life remains interesting till my sunset.



Arun with Indira



Daughter & her Family



"Only One Life to Give" book signing at Delhi launch



Life Companions



Ashok Pabuwal A.I.H.S.



1970



Recent Pic

Date of Birth : 7th Sept. 1954

Spouse : Madhu

Wed. Anniv : 24th February

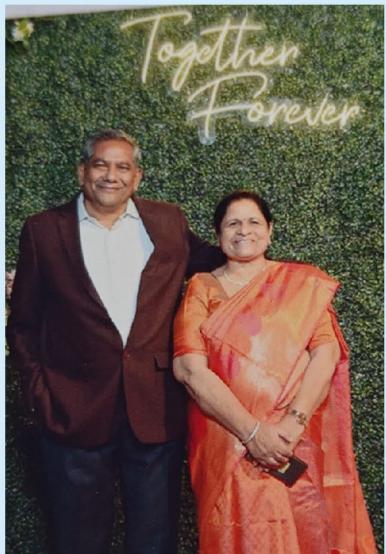
Address : 334, Nemi Sagar Colony,
Shekhawat Mansingh Block,
Queen's Road, Jaipur

Phone : 9829063650

E-mail : ashok@gpl.co.in

I was admitted in Xavier's in the year 1958 in class infant. Mr. Wadhwa was our teacher then who used to make faces to make us laugh. I was an average student and did my AIHS. Tried my hand in cricket and table tennis but could not go far. Handball was always a good past time during intervals. We were three brothers in the school and my sister's son was also in the school. He used to call me MAMA and hence my name MAMA amongst friends. I thought we could have better teachers in maths and science in the senior classes. Did my graduation from Maharaja college and had to enter into business soon after college. We are into manufacturing.

Married in the year 1978, Madhu is a homemaker. Have a son and daughter. Son has two boys. The younger son is tennis enthusiast. Daughter is married and settled in Indore.



Ashok and Madhu



Son & his Family



Daughter & her Family



A Fine Couple



Ashok Shah A.I.H.S.



1970

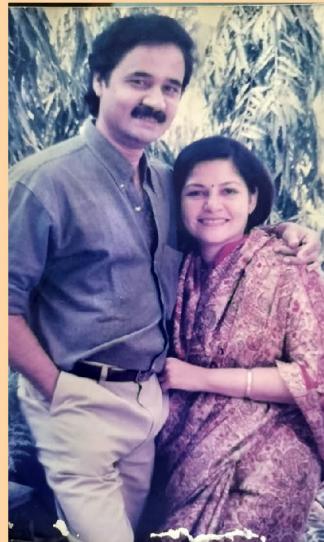


Recent Pic

Date of Birth : 4th Sep. 1955
Spouse : Archana
Wed. Anniv : 12th February
Address : B30, Jyoti Marg
Bapu Nagar, Jaipur
Phone : 9414067667
E-mail : iamashok1@gmail.com

I studied in St. Xavier's from 6th Standard onwards till I passed the school from the 1970 A.I.H.S. batch. I had science and mathematics as my primary subjects but was interested in arts, music and sports. I represented school in Table Tennis several times and got rewards from Rajasthan Sahitya Kala Academy for my paintings. I was a fan of English songs and my favourite channel was, Forces Request from Radio Ceylon. I did B.Com. from Agrawal College, Commerce College and finally as a private student, all affiliates of Rajasthan University. After college I again changed the subject and did M.A in English Literature. In the meantime I represented Raj. in table tennis in various National and Zonal Tournaments. After University I came into business and was manufacturing and exporting handmade carpets from Jaipur. In 1995 I joined my family business of Gems and Jewellery. I am manufacturing and selling Bridal jewellery (Kundan and Meena) by the brand known as UMRAO and have an office at Hotel Narain Niwas, Jaipur. I have two sons and both have joined up the same business and have taken over most of the responsibilities of manufacturing and selling. So now have more time to pursue my passion of Painting and Singing.

I have made portraits of famous corporate ladies of India and have held an exhibition of these paintings at Rajputana Sheraton and various schools and colleges. I am making these portraits as a motivating tool for young women and girls. To motivate them further, I have started displaying these along with motivating Poems and Songs, all self created. I have an original collection of around 60 poems and 15 songs. I have started a campaign to motivate women called Feminine Colours Of Success. I hold exhibitions in various schools and colleges and also my poems have been recited and then published, by famous and powerful women in Rajasthan. I was married to Archana and lost her to cancer in a long but remarkable struggle for 13 years, in the year 2009.



Ashok with Archana



Ashok & Archana with sons



Ashok the Singer



Ashok the Painter



Ashok Varandani A.I.H.S.



1970

Recent Pic

Date of Birth : 20th Nov. 1954
Spouse : Renu
Wed. Anniv : 29th January
Address : Am Langeloh 22a,
58675 Hemer, Germany
Phone : +49 171 6465226
E-mail : ashok@varandani.de

I joined St. Xavier School in 2nd standard. My journey at school was not an easy one. I had a few friends as our family came from Sindh and I felt some discrimination from the local population. I feel we can learn from this observation for the future of our grandchildren and for all Indians. Teachers and Fathers in School were good and I remember all their teachings. I was specially interested in Geography, History and Science and in Sports I was a nil. After passing my A.I.H.S. with good marks I did my MBBS at SMS Medical College following which I finished my studies at the same College with a degree in MS in Gynaecology and Obstetrics in 1981 and became the first male Gynaecologist from Jaipur. Thereafter I settled in Germany and had to re-do my German Masters in Gynaecology and Obstetrics from the University of Göttingen and got my Dr. Med. title. In Germany I worked in various hospitals till I finally opened my own private practice in 1991.

Meanwhile I had got married and had two daughters. My elder daughter, Khushbu, also opted for my profession and has joined me in my private practice since summer 2020. She has given me two wonderful grandsons of 6 and 4 years of age. My younger daughter, Rawina, is a mechanical Engineer from one of the finest German Engineering Universities and is a plant manager of a big German Multinational company in Düsseldorf. I am very interested in religion, palmistry and have been mostly correct in life with my intutional capabilities. One of my most favourite Shlokas is: *Om Sarve Bhavantu Sukhinah Let all be happy, Sarve Santu Niramayah Let all be free from debilitation Sarve Bhadrani Pashyantu Let all see goodness, Ma Kascid Dukha Bhagbhavet Let there be no victims of sorrow Om Shanti Shanti Shanti Om Shanti Shanti Shanti H, May all my classmates remain healthy and happy.*



With Renu



With two daughters & their families



Celebrating Grandkid's B'day



Holidaying in Cuba



Basantt Khaitan A.I.H.S.



1970

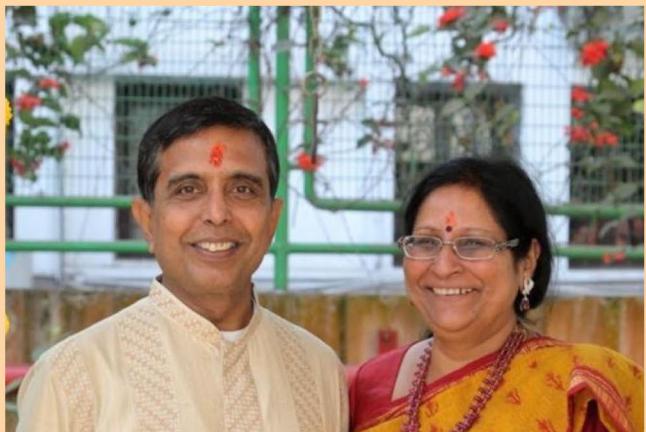
Recent Pic

Date of Birth : 8th Feb 1954
Spouse : Mala
Wed. Anniv : 26th January
Address : H3, Gautam Marg, Janpath, Shyam Nagar, Jaipur 302019
Phone : 98290 22726
E-mail : basantt@khaitan.me

Joined Xaviers in 1966/67 in class VIII. Fr. Periera was the Principal and Fr Willmus was heading the Hostel. Never received any punishment - still wondering why? Quite active in sports-specially atheletics. Took part in almost all games and sport events. Was part of the winning team in the 400M relay race and won a medal for high jump in the 1969 Annual Sports. Enjoyed my time in school thoroughly. Graduated in B.Com Honors from St. Xavier College, Calcutta in 1972. As a routine, everyday after morning college, reported to office for training under my father.

In 1972, returned to Jaipur to take charge of our family business. At age 18, I knew nothing about running an enterprise but learnt the traits of business and management with an excellent team of professionals. Could steer the company to become a leader in it's field. In 1985, our IPO for Wires & Fabriks (S.A) Ltd was very successful. Presently I support my two sons Madhur & Harsh who are actively managing the business. My daughter Neha is married to Aditya Saraf in Calcutta. My wife Mala proves the theory of 'better half'. In 1985, she founded today's most popular ladies social club 'Shubham'. In 1995, she founded 'Disha'-an institution for special children : www.dishafoundation.org and in 2020 she founded 'The Jeypore School' www.thejeyporeschool.org for children with Learning Disability.

I have been the President of Rotary Club Jaipur Midtown in 1984 and Chairman of CII (Confederation of Indian Industry), Rajasthan in 2017. Family, golf, music and travel for pleasure - keep my spirits up. Life has been kind to me with good friends adding that spice for a smack!



Basantt & Mala



Mala & Basantt with Family



CII Achievement Award'17



DG Police at age 5!



Chandra Belani A.I.H.S.



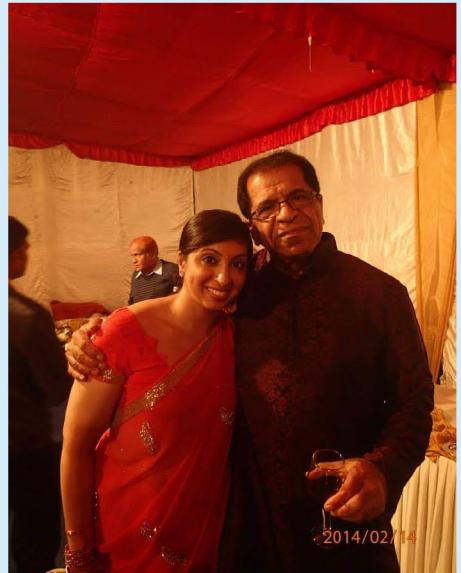
1970



Recent Pic

Date of Birth : 29th May 1954
Spouse : Anusha
Wed. Anniv : 18th February
Address : 256 East Chocolate Avenue
Hershey PA 17033
Phone : +1 412.818.3024
E-mail : belanicp@gmail.com

A few fragments of my life's mosaic at Xavier's since 1965 (5th grade): Fr Pinto giving me the extra math question so that I could score 110/100; playing cricket on Sundays with Tarun and friends; making wood pencil boxes with Rajesh at his family Karkhana; listening to Zakir's voice filled with humility; hunting for frogs with Sri...etc. I graduated AIHS with distinctions in Physics, Chemistry and Math. At SMS, I ranked amongst the top 3 in the Rajasthan University MBBS exam with honors in Ophtho and ObGyn., and was awarded the Gold Medal for my MD. These paintbrushes remind me that my life has been a constellation of moments worth celebrating. My family has been a source of strength and support throughout my life. My parents instilled in me the importance of empathy and hard work with the goal of attaining 'excellence'. I have a very close sibling bond, marked by unwavering support and shared interests that binds us together. I tied the knot in 1982 to Anusha (infectious diseases specialist) with some of you blessing the occasion. My daughter Kiran is an Academic Cardiothoracic Anesthesiologist with expertise in Structural / Interventional Echocardiography. Currently, I am a lung cancer expert with Tenured and Endowed Professorship in Oncology at Penn State College of Medicine. I have led clinical and translational research to develop novel therapeutic strategies that have been approved by regulatory agencies across the world and adopted as 'standards of care' impacting every lung cancer patient's journey. With extensive contributions to the literature, I have had the 'world stage' to talk about my accomplishments. I have nurtured the careers of a number of investigators worldwide. More recently, my research focus has evolved to extracellular vesicle isolation and biomarker discovery to gain deeper biological insights. Utilizing AI and deep learning including visual analytic tools, my group is navigating the vast health information "terrain" of lung cancer. My life may seem idyllic, but I do face challenges like anyone else. I cherish and value 'friends and family' the most and it is time for me not to just foresee but enable the future.



Chandra with Kiran



With Kiran & Anusha



Oration at ASCO



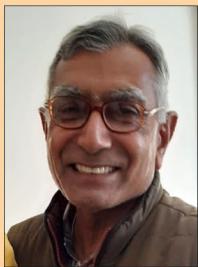
At Buddha Temple



Dalpat Singh I.S.C.



1970



Recent Pic

Date of Birth : 5th Sept. 1953
Spouse : Usha
Wed. Anniv : 4th December
Address : 2, High Court Colony,
Sector C Road,
Jodhpur 342001
Phone : 9828278055
E-mail : dalpat145@gmail.com

It had been my childhood dream to join the Indian Army so I joined Rajasthan College in Jaipur which had an Officer's Training Unit in NCC. I cleared the Preliminary SSB for Army but the family put its foot down against my joining the Army because my elder brother was already a Captain in the Army and the family did not want both boys in the Army. So I was ordered to stay back and complete my education. In 1974, I graduated with a B.A. Degree in History Honours. Due to mother's illness, I had to return to Jodhpur where I joined post graduation degree course in English Literature. Realizing that the Jodhpur University did not have a student's News Bulletin, I started a bilingual fortnightly with my own pocket money titled 'Cheel' which was popular amongst the faculty members as well as the students. During emergency in 1975-76 was advised to stop printing of Cheel but I continued. Truly that was a period of fear and muzzling dissent. In 1976, I completed my post grad degree in Eng Lit and immediately joined a job as an executive Trainee with Shriram Chemicals and Fertilizers. It was antithetical to my nature and I left this monotonous 9 to 5 job much against the wishes and wisdom of the top management and ventured into business of producing leather bags in New Delhi. In 1977 went to West Germany and set up a network there but on returning found father was not well and shifted back to village and in 1979 he passed away due to cancer. In 1981, I settled full time in Jodhpur and village both, dividing my time between the two. In 1980 I got married to Usha who is a doctor & M.S. in Obstetrics and Gynecology. We have one son - Sharad who is Chief Engineer in Merchant Navy. He is married to Devyani Singh. I am blessed with a grandson Shivaditya Singh. In 2020, I established a cooperative society 'Jodhpur State Forces War Memorial Society' and currently I am busy in raising a war memorial in the memory of all those who gave their lives in foreign lands for foreign causes.



Dalpat with Usha



Son Sharad with Wife



Dalpat & Usha with daughter-in-law Devyani



The Immaculate Man with Grand Son Shivaditya





Deepak Chhibba I.S.C.



1970



Recent Pic

Date of Birth : 2nd Sept 1954
Spouse : Anita
Wed Anniv : 12th December
Address : 804 Odyssey-2,
Hiranandani Gardens, Powai,
Mumbai-400076
Phone : 9987511998
E-mail : deepak.chhibba@gmail.com

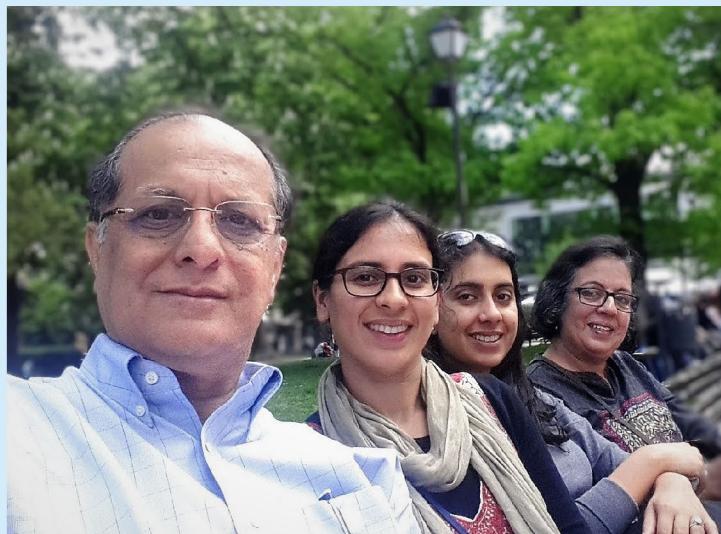
I joined St. Xavier's in 1964 in IV Std. Our home was on Arvind Marg, i.e. the lane going from the school to Niros. School days or vacation time, I was always in school from morning till dusk - happily busy in swimming, basketball, TT, handball, library, hanging around and chatting. I never saw handball & baseball being played anywhere in India again! Plays (rehearsal at Mrs. Tandon's residence!) and overnight picnics were great fun.

I joined IIT Delhi in 1971 and earned a B.Tech. in Mechanical Engineering. In a corporate career spanning four decades, I worked in Hindustan Lever, Gabriel India, Colgate Palmolive and retired from Mahindra & Mahindra. I was fortunate to be involved in varied industries - FMCG, auto components, chemicals and tractors - across geographies in various Indian states and abroad, in supply chain functions from purchasing, manufacturing & customer service and general management. Post retirement, I helped Akshay Patra install and run their first kitchen in Maharashtra at Thane.

Anita and I married in 1980. She is MBBS, MD (Pharmacology) and teaches Pharmacology in Navi Mumbai. We have two daughters Divya and Shaila married to Gautam and Nir respectively. Both are settled in USA. We have two grandchildren Raz & Maya. We live in Powai Mumbai. My hobbies are bridge, golf and sketching.



Deepak with Anita



Deepak & Anita with their Daughters



Sketch of The Grand Kids Raz & Maya





Deepak Maheshwari I.S.C.



1970



Recent Pic

Date of Birth : 11th December 1954
Spouse : Alka
Wed. Anniv : 10th December
Address : A/5602, Omkar 1973,
Worli, Mumbai 400030
Phone : 9324800993
E-mail : deepakmaheshwary@gmail.com

I joined Xavier's in Jan '63 in Std III. I took a double promotion from V to VII in '65 and cleared ISC in Dec'70. I passed B.Com (university topper) in 1974 and joined SBI as a Probationary Officer in 1975 at 20. Major postings in SBI were at Bhopal, Bombay and Toronto (Canada). I joined HDFC Bank in 1996 and Axis Bank in 2019, holding top management positions in both banks. I retired from Axis in 2022 at 67. I'm currently on the boards of two companies. I married Alka (another SBI officer) in 1985. We have two sons - Rochan (settled in NY) and Neil (settled in Seattle).

In school, I was a quiet 'middle-bencher' not known for naughty deeds. Sumit Das was a close friend and Nihal Mathur was another neighbour at Bani Park. I was the king of the 'Jungle Jim' located in a corner of the school and could jump from one pole to another with ease. The highlight of the school, apart from the beautiful building and grounds was the quality / sincerity of the teachers that we had. I fondly remember Ms Alexander / Malviya / Talwar, Mr Simon / RL Sharma and Fathers Stanley / Zubricky / Pinto and Tottuville. Fr Pereira was a strict Principal during most of my school years. Post retirement, I have been trying to keep myself busy with the directorships, travel (domestic / international), yoga, Vipassana and reading. God has been exceptionally kind in my career, health, happiness and family. In Bombay I was fortunate to meet Chhibba, Tarun, TM, Sumit and Raman at various points of time. I also attended the reunions at Pushkar, Ranthambore and Bharatpur. Looking forward to the next one.



Deepak & Alka



A Grand Couple



Special Person with Common Man



Deepak & Family



Devendra Surana I.S.C.



1970



Recent Pic

Date of Birth : 10th May 1953
Spouse : Lalita
Wed Anniv : 19th November
Address : 100 Old Palisade Road,
Apartment 1009Fort Lee,
N.J . 07024 , USA
Phone : +1 (917) 687 4859
E-mail : dksurana@aol.com

I joined St. Xavier's in 1958 in kindergarten. My father was among the 6 students in the first batch of 1950 who graduated the so called Senior Cambridge. After my I.S.C. graduation and further studies I got married and moved to New York in USA to assist my uncle in the family jewelry business. 2023 is a very eventful year as I celebrate my 50 years in business, in U.S.A and Golden Jubilee of my marriage and a Xavierite. It's indeed a milestone year for me. I will be meeting all my school friends after more than 50 years. Seems like in movie stories you left your friends in childhood and meet again after 50 years as Seniors. So I was blessed with 4 lovely daughters including identical twins. They were all born and educated in New York and ironically 3 married in India and one lives in New York.

I am blessed with 8 grandchildren among them, 6 girls and 2 boys. And of course 4 good son-in-laws. They are like my own sons. That way God has been very kind to me and am ever grateful.



Charming Daughters



Devender with Lalita



Devender's daughters with their spouses



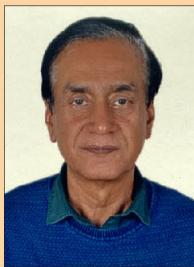
Devender's 3 generation family: 4 daughters, their spouses & 8 grandkids



Dharampal Singh Poonia I.S.C.



1970



Recent Pic

After completion of ISC from St Xavier in 1970, completed 3-year BA (Hons) Course from BITS, Pilani. Post-graduated twice (MA English in 1976 & MA International Politics in 1978) from JNU, New Delhi while preparing for the IAS. Joined the Indian Administrative Service (IAS) on 12-07-1978 (1978 Batch) and was allocated to Manipur-Tripura cadre. During my IAS service period I worked briefly with the Govt. of Tripura and later mostly with the Govt. of Manipur with three deputations to the Central Govt. During my final term in Manipur from 2007-2013, I was promoted as Chief Secretary and served in that position from 2009-2013. Post retirement we have settled in Gurgaon, Delhi NCR. Family: Blessed with two boys- Sanga & Boris- now grown up independent young men. The elder son, Sanga Poonia, is an American citizen & lives in North Carolina, USA. The younger, Boris Poonia, lives in Delhi & works as a consultant on social media advertising from home. I live with my wife, Iyerish Poonia, and very young daughter, Symphony Poonia (7 years) in Gurgaon. The daughter keeps us busy & happy. God bless her. Memories of School: Most lasting memory is of Fr. Zubricky who took us through the final two years and polished not just our English but our personalities. He was a gem of a person & an unforgettable life guide. I would not be in the IAS & could never have imagined reaching the high official position of Chief Secretary of a State on my personal merits without Fr. Zubricky's contribution.

School Hostel was fun & left an enduring stamp on our personalities. The rigorous routine from 6 am in the morning to 9 pm daily and the compulsory sports every evening imbibed in us the intrinsic value of exercise & good health. Fr. Grace followed by Fr. Wilmas & Anand Junia as Wardens disciplined us like NDA cadets. Resilient bodies in positive minds was the product of St. Xavier School & Hostel.



Pharmpal with Iverish & Symphony



With Jverish & Symphony



With Jiverish & Symphony



Two sons: Sanga & Boris



Fateh Singh Rathore A.I.H.S.



1970



Recent Pic

Date of Birth : 19th April 1954
Spouse : Pushpendra Kanwar
Wed. Anniv : 20th January
Address : Bassi Mohalla,
Near Santoshi Mata Mandir,
Nagaur 341001
Phone : 9460543506

I joined the school in the year 1961. In 1963 I joined the hostel. For me it was the best school and the best hostel in the world. I am very much obliged to all the Rev. Fathers and all the teachers of our great school. They were all great personalities to remember and to admire. I was a good athlete and a good swimmer in school. After doing A.I.H.S. from school, I did B.A. from Rajasthan College, Jaipur. I was a good athlete and a good carrom player in Rajasthan College, Jaipur. After doing my B.A. I did L.L.B from Law College, (Rajasthan University), Jaipur. In law College also I was a good athlete and a carrom player. My father, late Shri Ganga Singh ji was an advocate in Nagaur and was also M.L.A. (twice) from my home constituency, Jayal in District Nagaur. My village is Kasari, Tehsil Jayal, District Nagaur (Rajasthan). I am looking after my 20 shops in Nagaur and doing agriculture in my village. I have got 200 bighas of land in my village, which is 50 kms away from Nagaur. My land is good for production of Moong (Green Gram) in rainy season. In winter season my land is good for the production of Isabgol which is used for medical purposes. My wife Pushpendra is M.A. (History), B.Ed. I have two daughters and one son. My elder daughter Vandana Rathore is M.A. (English), B.Ed. (Teacher), married to Uttampal Singh Deora who has a degree of M.B.A from West London College (Heriot-Watt University) presently working in a Multi National Company. My younger daughter Bhavana Rathore is M.C.A from N.I.T Kurukshetra (Government Teacher). My son Tribhuvan Singh Rathore is B.B.A & L.L.B.



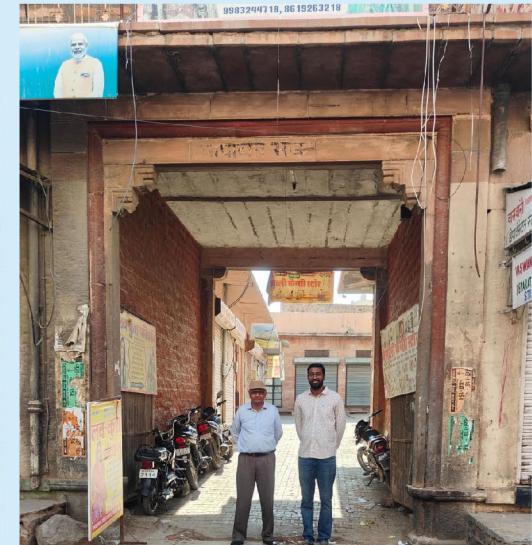
Fateh with Pushpendra



Family portrait at Vandana's wedding

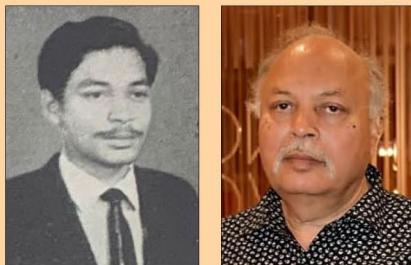


Son Tribhuvan



Champawat Bhawan shops, Fateh & Son

Krishna Gelda I.S.C.



1970

Recent Pic

Date of Birth : 17th May 1953
 Spouse : Renu
 Wed. Anniv : 9th May
 Address : 65, Dhuleshwar Garden
 Jaipur 302001
 Phone : 9509779578 / 0141 2372490
 E-mail : krishnagelda@gmail.com
 Website : www.geldahomoeo.com

Joined Saint Xavier school in 1st standard and passed out in 1970. Represented School in Swimming team at championship that took place in Mayo College Ajmer and were runners up in 4 x 100 meter relay. Was Junior Squash champion of Rajasthan State at Championship which took place at Ashok Club Jaipur. Joined SMS Medical college in 1972 after passing PMT, represented medical college Tennis Team in inter college championship which took place in Bikaner and were Runners Up. Passed M.B.B.S. in 1977, did my MD in General Medicine in March 1983. Started own private clinic and was practicing Holistic Medicine, Acupuncture, Allopathy and Homoeopathy. Was Consultant Physician in Indian Red Cross Society clinic run at Sanganeri Gate Jaipur. Was Secretary of Indian Red Cross Society Rajasthan State branch for nine years. Today practicing as Consultant Physician and Consultant Homoeopath Dealing in both Acute and Chronic Diseases. My son Ojasvi and daughter Medhavi are both consultant Homoeopaths and practicing with me at our Dhuleshwar Garden Residence.



With Renu



With son & daughter in Europe



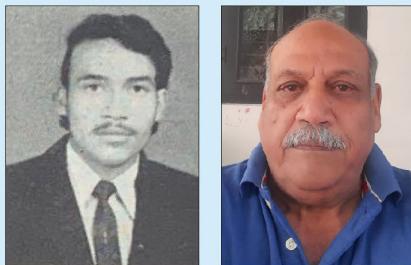
With son & daughter in Europe



Tourists in China



Naresh Joshi A.I.H.S.



1970

Recent Pic

Date of Birth : 30 November 1953

Spouse : Nayantara

Wed. Anniv : 6 May 1979

Jaipur Address: G7/B Vinoba Marg,
C-Scheme, Jaipur

Perman. Add : Joshi ji ki kothi,
District Dausa (Raj.) 303303

Phone : 9828575492

E-mail : joshinaresh47@gmail.com

I joined St. Xavier's in class KG. When I was in Xavier's I played Baseball (also called Softball) for school team and later played Softball Nationals at Kanpur. I also played Basketball for school team at district and state level at Udaipur. I have fond memories of tasty Patties and Yummy Milk Shake & the delicious ice cream cones in our canteen. Saturday evening movies I never missed as my house is walking distance from school. After the evening game it was routine to go Gupta Ice at Panch Batti for refreshing coke & end the day at senior lounge for music & gossip. I vividly remember teachers like Miss C Lobo, Mrs Chapman, Mrs. Nigam & Father Mayer.

The inimitable Mr. Brandon was a gem of a person who loved telling unending stories. After school I went back to my hometown Dausa to look after my ailing father. From there I did my B.Sc. Biology in 1974. I also did my LLB from Rajasthan University in 1977. Thereafter I practiced law for 5-7 years in Jaipur. Meanwhile in 1979 I got married to Nayantara Joshi who was a post graduate in History & Public Administration. We have two daughters Kirti & Neha. Kirti has done her Mechanical Engineering from MBM College, Jodhpur. Today she's working as an RAS Officer in the Cooperative Department, Govt. of Rajasthan. My other daughter Neha has done her B.A. Honors and LLB and LLM as well. She is now serving as a District Protection Officer in the Govt. of Rajasthan. In year 1998 I went back to Dausa & started tilling soil in my farm. Today I am simple nirdhan kisan. Kabhi padharon mhare gaon.



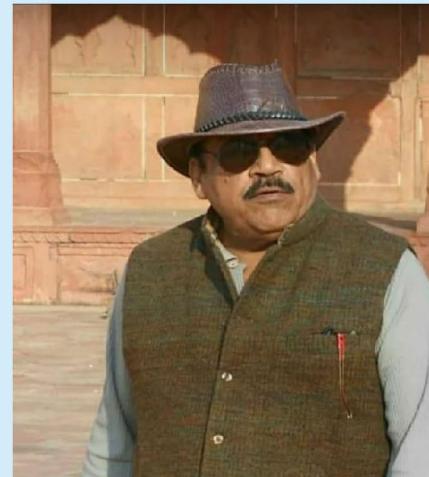
With Old Friends



Naresh with Nayantara



"Nirdhan Kissan" Look



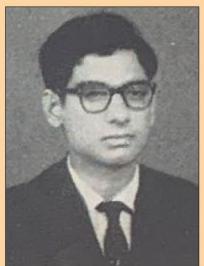
City Smart Look



With Nayantara & daughters



Naresh Menghani I.S.C.



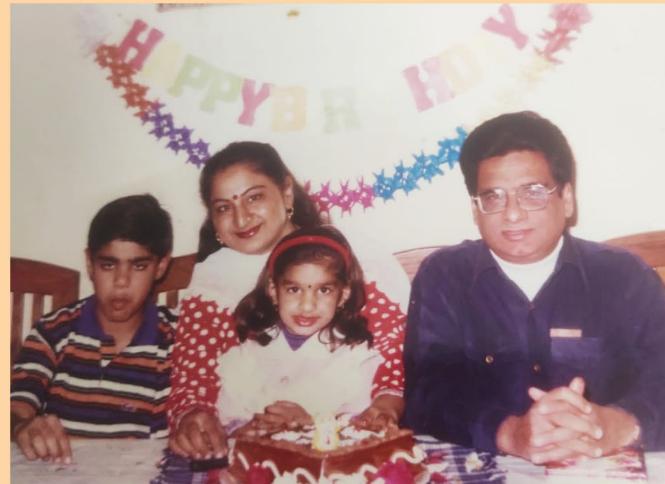
1970



Recent Pic

Date of Birth : 1st May 1953
Spouse : Late Nandita Menghani
Wed. Anniv : 27th December
Address : 407, Adarsh Nagar,
Jaipur 302004
Phone : 9610727000
E-mail : nmenghani94@gmail.com

After School I joined Bank of India and passed 1st & 2nd Year B.Com simultaneously in one year. Thereafter I completed my Graduation B.Com. through correspondence. In 1977, I joined Bank of Maharashtra as Probationary Officer. From then on life has been very pleasant and above all, very challenging for me. But due to my humorous and carefree nature I really enjoyed my job and both staff and customers used to be very happy with me. Due to my domestic problems I did not compete for further promotions after Scale III. One plus point of my service was that I always got posting at various places of my choice. Some highlights of my Banking Career are as under: In 1978 I detected a fraud in SB accounts which resulted in termination of one of the most powerful union leader. In 1989 I opened Zonal Computer Cell in Bhopal and computerized back office consolidation work of all branches of zone. My computer cell was the top most among all cells of our Bank. In the year 1999 on 31st March i.e. on the date of closing I brought a deposit of Rs. 60 Crores (which was a very huge amount at that time) single handedly that too competing against very big and powerful banks such as SBI PNB BOB (and so on) some whose highest authority officials such as zonal/regional managers had come for mobilising that deposit and I was simply a scale III officer. Later in June 2000 I helped disbursed a loan of Rs.100 crores to RSEB. In 1999 I single handedly opened a Foreign Exchange Centre at Jaipur Branch and did record business of several crores. Last but not the Least, I was considered indispensable & worked uninterrupted in a single branch from 1997 to 2004. Normally an officer is transferred after serving a branch for 3 years only. I got married to Nandita in 1981. I lost her unexpectedly in April 2007. We have two children a son & a daughter. Son Jayesh is in Real Estate Business and married to Vidhi who is a Housewife. They are blessed with a daughter Kianna. My daughter Rimjhim is a Software Professional and is married to Rohit who is a software engineer.



Naresh & Nandita with son & daughter



Son & Daughter with their Spouses



Grand Daughter Kianna



Disbursing 100 Crore loan to RSEB



Nihal Mathur A.I.H.S.



1970



2011

Date of Birth : 29th Nov. 1953
Spouse : Single
Address : D-279, Bani Park
Todarmal Marg, Jaipur-302016
Phone : 9660087910
E-mail : nihalmathur@gmail.com
Website : nihalmathur.com

After graduating from Delhi University, I led a career of an inveterate freelancer who continually moved from one project to another almost all his life. I worked in film / television for over 30 years producing and directing documentaries for both NGO & Corporate sectors. I also worked with foreign networks in roles as diverse as Researcher & Line Producer. I also had the opportunity to work with foreign feature films, TV serials, commercial and ad films. Besides film & television, I have also worked as a photojournalist, contributing to various newspapers and magazines in India and abroad. The focus of my stories has largely been on History, Art, Culture and Wildlife. I have been an avid photographer whose pictures have been printed in calendars, posters, brochures and mounted in exhibitions. I have written professionally for many clients. I took early retirement from professional jobs and went to Todgarh Raoli Wildlife Sanctuary where I lived abutting the forest for 3 years working with people on projects related to Wildlife Conservation, Biodiversity & Empowerment of the local people. I started Ecopanions Society, an initiative to communicate the Importance of Ecology, the Story of Resources and the Lessons in Sustainability to all age groups and people. With mounting health issues, I am now in retirement sorting out my humongous collection of stamps into different themes and presenting them as pieces of wall art. I have remained a confirmed bachelor but I have raised a boy Ghanshyam who is now 27 years old. The most significant thing about me is that I lived with my Guru for twenty years, before he passed away.



Nihal's psychedelic art in School



Reading Marx in College



Nihal with his Sisters



With Ghanshyam



Nirmal Kumbhat I.S.C.



1970

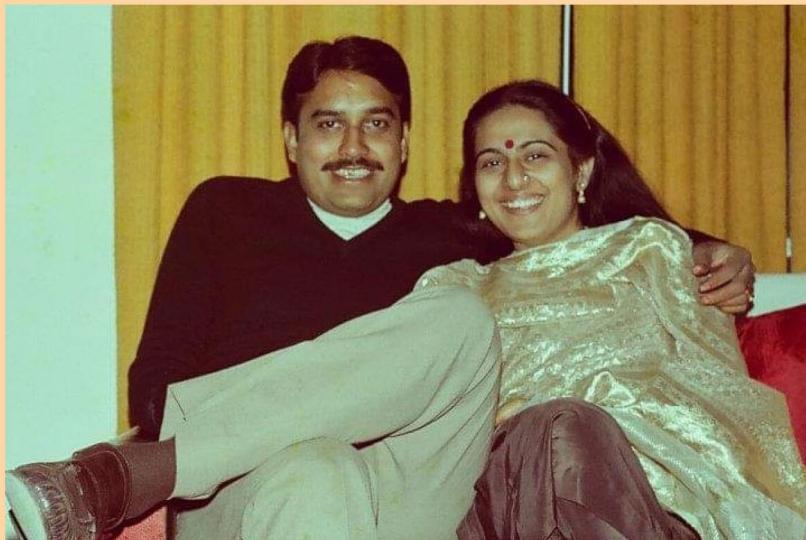


Recent Pic

Date of Birth	:	5th Jan. 1953
Spouse	:	Jyoti
Wed. Anniv	:	23rd November
Address	:	Villa No. 363, Applewoods Villas, Near Surbhit Vatika, SP Ring Road, Ahmedabad- 380058
Phone	:	9974062104
E-mail	:	nirmalkumbhat@gmail.com

I joined St. Xavier school in the year 1958/59. I was always a sports person; Athletics, cricket, basketball, baseball and football. I did not have much of a liking for academics but at the same time I was one of those four boys who opted for Higher Maths-Biology and English Literature in the ISC exams. I was member of the school basketball and football teams. I was the captain of the school's BLUES house. Mr. Anand Junia's policy of 'one player one sport' made me opt out of the school basketball team and become a regular football player. I was part of the winning team in Inter School Football Fiesta. The same year I was selected for basketball team to represent Rajasthan in 1970 Agra Nationals. Where we created history by winning the National Title for the 1st time. I went to BITS, Pilani for my bachelors in Management, I was the captain of the college basketball team.

Followed it up with MBA (marketing) from Poddar Institute in Jaipur. I joined the flagship company of Birla Group - Grasim Industries, Gwalior. After about 3 years, I started my own business. Pepe Jeans was introduced to Rajasthan by my wholesale distribution venture. I followed it up by opening a boutique store ENVEE in Jaipur. After incurring losses, I moved back to the Textile Industry as a professional with Century Textiles, Mumbai as Senior Manager Marketing. Later on I joined Reliance Industries, as GM and settled in Ahmedabad. I retired from active professional service in 2010. I met Jyoti in Gwalior while I was working and we got married in Nov, 1982. I have 2 sons. Nawal, who is a captain in merchant navy. He is married to Vaishali and has a 3 year old son Shaan. Vaarun started his career with Jet Airways. He is now working for the Gallops group in Ahmedabad. Currently, I am undergoing treatment for Leukaemia, I have been able to fight it out with the support of my family and friends. So far God has been kind to me and my family that I have faced all the upheavals of life courageously and happily.



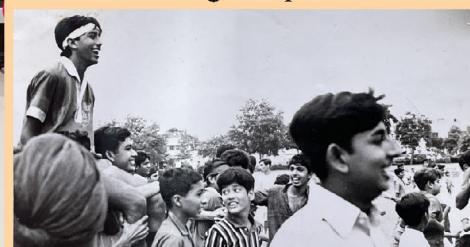
Nirmal and Jyoti at Honeymoon



As on 19th August 2023



Gold in High Jump Senior B



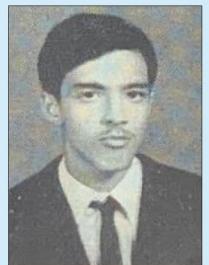
After winning the Football Fiesta



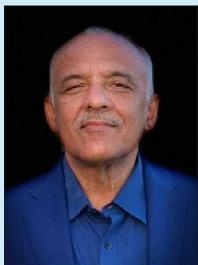
Nirmal as Sardar at BITS



Pavan Shorey A.I.H.S.



1970

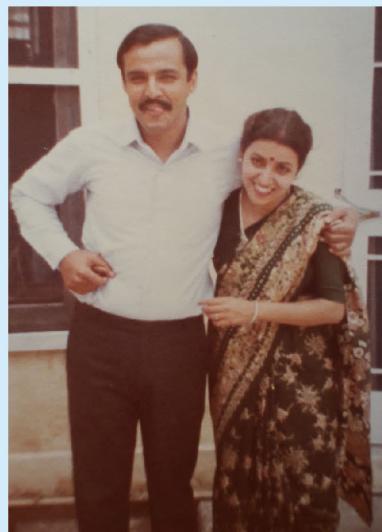


Recent Pic

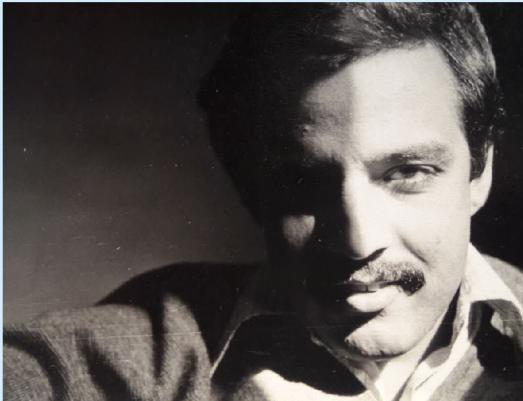
Date of Birth : 17th April 1954
Spouse : Late Dr. Sunita Shorey
Wed. Anniv : 29th July
Address : 179, AWHO Colony
Ambabari, Jaipur 302039
Phone : 9414045217
E-mail : pavanshorey@gmail.com

I joined St Xavier school in the 7th standard and passed out in 1970 finishing my AIHS. I did my MBBS and MS in Ophthalmology from SMS Medical College, Jaipur. I subsequently specialised in the field of Vitreo Retina. I was selected as Assistant Professor in Ophthalmology after completing my Senior Residency from Lady Hardinge Medical College, New Delhi. I served in JIPMER, Pondicherry, Goa Medical College and University College of Medical Sciences, Delhi. I have more than 20 publications in peer reviewed journals. When I was an Associate Professor, I resigned from service and joined the private sector. I am a Consultant at Jaipur Hospital, Jaipur. I am a vitreo retinal surgeon. In Jaipur, I was involved in academic activities of Rajasthan Ophthalmological Society, which is an association of all eye specialists of Rajasthan. I served there as Chairman, Scientific Committee, as general secretary and as its President.

When I was in my fifties I revived my passion for English Literature. I have written two novels, Conversations on a Park Bench and The Mountain Deer. They are based on the Bhagwad Geeta and the Katha Upanishad respectively. I am a poet too and have a number of poems to my credit. My other passion is Mountain trekking. I have done the Valley of Flowers trek and the Kashmir Great Lakes trek amongst others. My wife, Dr Sunita was an associate professor in Anaesthesiology at Jipmer. She passed away, succumbing to lung cancer. I was 37 then. I have been single since then. I have a son, Aviral who along with his wife, Shweta, are in the IT sector. They are settled in Noida.



Pavan with Sunita



Beginning of Poetry Days



Pavan with son Aviral & Shweta



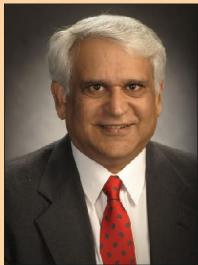
Trekking in the Valley of Flowers



Piyush Mehrotra A.I.H.S.



1970



Recent Pic

Date of Birth : 14th Dec. 1954
Spouse : Mala
Wed.Anniv : 24 May
Address : 8802 Cabernet Dr,
Saratoga CA 95070 USA
Phone : +1 408-785-0064
WA : +1 408-785-0064
Landline : +1 408-861-0939
E-mail : pmehrotra2006@gmail.com

After passing out of St. Xavier's, I went to University of Delhi where I obtained degrees in B.Sc. (Hons) Physics (1974) and M.Sc. Physics (1976) from the Department of Physics. In 1976, I joined the first batch of the School of Computer and Systems Sciences at Jawahar Lal Nehru University, graduating in 1978 with an M.Phil. degree in Computer Science. After a short stint at Hindustan Computers Ltd., in 1978, I left for US to pursue a degree in Biophysics from the State University of New York, Buffalo, but within 6 months decided to transfer to the University of Virginia, to pursue a Ph. D. in Computer Science, successfully obtaining a doctorate in 1982. After two years as a post-doc in a NASA-associated research organization, ICASE, I joined Purdue University's Department of Computer Science as an Assistant Professor in 1984. I spent 5 years teaching at Purdue before returning to ICASE as a senior scientist in 1989, and rising to the level of Research Fellow. In August of 2000, I joined NASA Ames Research Center in San Francisco Bay area as a federal employee. During my career, I have published over 150 papers in conferences and journals and have edited couple of books. For the last 10 years I have been the Chief of the NASA Advanced Supercomputing (NAS) Division (www.nas.nasa.gov) managing NASA's premier supercomputing center. Among other honors, I have twice received the NASA Outstanding Leadership Medal during my 23 years of service at NASA. I met my wife, Mala, while we were doing M.Sc. in Physics in Delhi University and we were married in May 1978. I have three children. My oldest son, Shishir, (nickname Bunty) is also in the tech industry, reaching the level of Vice President of YouTube, before he quit to start his own startup Coda. He married Anjuli, an Allergy/Immunology doctor, and have two daughters, Anika, 17 & Riya, 14. My second son, Mayank, (nickname Chintu), is an online instructor, teaching all the science subjects to high-school & undergraduate students. He married Komal Sawlani in Oct 2022, a Neurology and Neuromuscular doctor at the Cleveland Medical Center. My daughter, Karishma, after spending 4 years with Indian Express in Delhi as well as free lancing as a journalist, joined the Washington Post office in Delhi as their South Asian bureau special correspondent in 2023.



Piyush with Mala



Elder Son Shishir & Family



Daughter Karishma



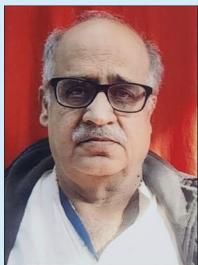
Younger Son Mayank & Komal



Pradeep Chopra A.I.H.S.



1970



Recent Pic

Date of Birth : 20th Sep 1952
Spouse : Neetu
Wed. Anniv : 3rd December
Address : 4-Bha -10, Sector 4
Shanti Path, Jawahar Nagar,
Jaipur-302004
Phone : 9829063355
E-mail : choprasapra@gmail.com

I was born in 1952 on September 20 to Mr. P.C. Chopra and Mrs. Neelam Chopra. I joined our alma mater in 1959 and my first class was KG-B. During that time our principal was Rev. Father Perera and Mrs. Lobo was my class teacher. Though I was an average student during my school days, I still got canned by Father Rebero twice or thrice. One fond memory of those times is I never had a cold lunch box. As my home was quite near the school, I dashed home to enjoy it. Finished my Bachelor's with flying colours from Maharaja College. After that, I joined my family business with my father dealing with motor spare parts. I got married in 1978 to Neetu on 3rd December. My wife is a homemaker and the backbone of the household. We are blessed with two children, one son and a daughter. Both of them are married, as for my daughter she is in Jodhpur and has two kids - Tanay and Nitya. Her husband Harsh Lamba runs a transport company. My son Nikhil is carrying on the legacy of running the family business with me. His wife Shivani is also a homemaker. They are blessed with two daughters. Anshika is a pre-teen kiddo - a hardcore Taylor Swift fan and the little munchkin Zia (The strict class teacher). With the addition of young minds, I am getting the hang of new things and lingo. Listening to old movie songs and "searching" the net have become the latest hobbies. Still going strong and working hard at my job.



Pradeep and Neetu



Pradeep and Neetu holidaying in Goa



Pradeep and Neetu with Family



Rajive Kanwar I.S.C.



1970



Recent Pic

Date of Birth : 20th May 1954
Spouse : Seema
Wed. Anniv : 16th August 82
Address : Sky Court, Sector 86,
Gurugram 122004
Phone : 9001767555
E-mail : rajji_kanwar@yahoo.co.in

Much as I wanted to join St. Stephen's but I chose to go across the road to Hindu College where my school buddies Deepak Korla and Sudhanidhi Kasliwal urf Cas had already joined. In Hindu I did History (Hons) and passed out in 1974. The following year I joined the Short Service Commission and in 1976 joined Rajputana Rifles. I served the Indian Army for 36 years finally retiring as Colonel in 2012. During this time I was posted all along the Indian border with Pakistan and China in the North and North East of India. Where else do you think that a fighting force like infantry is positioned? The years in the Indian Army taught me that life is cheap and loyalty and friendship comes at a premium.

I got married to Seema in 1982 and now we have 2 children – a girl and a boy – both happily married and settled in life. Seema has been a source of strength and drive all through these years. I wouldn't know where I would be without her. After retirement I came back to Jaipur and re-established my relationship with old school buddies. We met quite regularly especially at the Ashok Club over gossip, drinks and dinner. After 10 years my children convinced us that we were not getting any younger and insisted we shift closer to them in Gurugram where they both worked and lived. So we made a shift from Jaipur this January. I have a lot of tales to recount but I refrain from going public. But hey! If you join me for beer and kababs, I will regale you with my escapades! Cheers to you and to your good health.



Rajive with Seema



Rajive & Family



With Seema



With Seema



1970



Recent Pic

Date of Birth : 26th October 1954
Spouse : Madhu Loiwal
Wed. Anniv : 19th April
Address : C-25, Panchsheel Colony,
Ajmer Road, Jaipur 302019
Phone : 98290 63394
Email : rajeev.loiwal@gmail.com

Xavier's was the only school I attended, joined in Prep in 1960 and passed out in AIHS in March 1971. I was okay in studies. I was in the basketball team and used to like baseball a lot. The 3 to 4 months preparation for the final exams was at Mani Mahal, residence of Anil Kasliwal, along with Ashok Shah. The teachers I remember most are Fr. Extross, Mr.N.L.Jain and Mr.R.L.Sharma. From 1971 to 76, I did my MBA from BITS, Pilani. For the first three years I was fortunate to have Anil, Sunil, Nirmal and Dharampal with me. I was vice captain of the basketball team. I topped my batch. After passing out, I joined my family business of steel fabrication as well as marketing of industrial products, and continue till date. On the non-business front, I have been National Vice President of Indian Jaycees and Madhu my wife are actively involved with an NGO Friends of Tribals Society.

I have two sons Navneet and Varun, aged 41 and 36. Both did their schooling from SMS and are Computer Science graduates. Navneet was ranked 4th All India in the IIT entrance exam. He went on to top IIT Powai and received the President of India Gold Medal. He has his own startup in Silicon Valley, USA. His wife is Rupma works in Facebook and they have two kids. My younger son Varun did B.E. from BITS Pilani and post graduation from USA. He is also in the Silicon Valley and is working in Airbnb. Daughter in law Chandni works with Google. They have a daughter Riya (2). My better half Madhu is a homemaker and is involved in social activities. She also helps me in business. My contact with our batch really started after Pushkar 1.0 in 1995. Thank you Basant for your initiative and herculean efforts in getting so many of us together. I am a casual singer and enjoy singing.



Madhu with Rajeev



Rajeev with sons Navneet and Varun



Rajeev with Family



With Grandkids in Japan



Rajendra Sureka A.I.H.S.



1970



Recent Pic

Date of Birth : 6th Dec. 1953
Spouse : Nirmala
Wed. Anniv : 17th June
Address : 47 Sanjay Marg, Hathroi, Jaipur-302001
Phone : 9829275749
E-mail : rsureka@redifmail.com

Joined Xaviers in class 3. My class teacher Madam Francis was very strict. I chose A.I.H.S. secondary Board because I wanted to become a doctor and subject of biology was not there in ISC. Studying throughout my school I consistently got ranks between 1st and 2nd and passed out from AIHS with distinction in all subjects, topping my batch. I used to like to visit canteen and still remember the milkshakes, patties and ice cream cones which they were really delicious. I used to play table tennis and was a member of the school team and represented school in the state tournaments. Besides this, I used to write Tarun Patrika. I still remember our school library where I read Hardy boys series and novels of Enid Blyton. After passing out from the school I was selected in SMS Medical College where I did my MBBS with honours in ophthalmology, MD in Medicine & DNB in Neurology. Served SMS Medical College for 23 years as a teacher and retired as Professor and Additional Principal of SMS medical college in 2013. Joined Mahatma Gandhi Medical College, Jaipur as a Professor and Head of the neurology department where in few years time, studies for DM neurology were introduced and at present intake is of 5 students every year. After death of my mother in 1994, I started an NGO, Epilepsy Care and Research Foundation in which I along with my team run free services in village Ratannagar, district Churu for patients suffering from epilepsy. There are around 8,000 patient registration in the camp and around 500 patients visit every month from all over India. All patients are consulted free, given medicine free every month since 30 years. For this endeavour my name figures in Limca book of records, Guinness world record, India Book of Record & International Book of Records for holding maximum number of free camps in the world. I have also been bestowed with state award and lifetime achievement award by IMA. My wife Nirmala Sureka founded Triveni Diagnostic Centre and has been running it since past 30 years. She is also executive member of ladies club. I have 2 sons. Dr Rohit Sureka, who is a Gastroenterologist and working in Manipal Hospital Jaipur as a senior consultant, and my daughter in law Dr. Shruti Sureka is a clinical head of quality control in Rajasthan Hospital. My second son Dr. Rakshit Sureka is a post graduate in prosthodontics and his wife Dr. Priya Sureka is a MD in oral medicine & both are practicing as consultants. I am also the President of India Epilepsy Association Jaipur chapter and treasurer of Indian Epilepsy Association, Central. I am a member of managing board of Mody institute of Education and Research, Lakshmangarh.



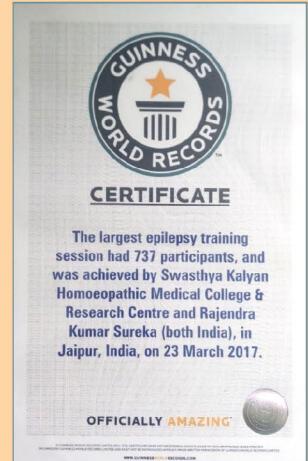
Rajender with Nirmala



Family photograph at Son's Wedding



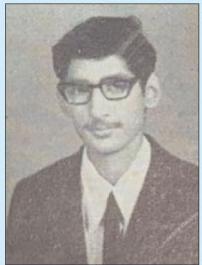
State Award from Raj. Governor in 2010



Recognition by Guinness



Rajendra Singh A.I.H.S.



1970



Recent Pic

Date of Birth : 12 Nov. 1952
Spouse : Girija Singh
Wed. Anniv. : 19 April 1980
Address : D-66, Madho Singh Road
Bani Park, Jaipur-302016
Phone : 9414062626
Email : ma.pharmak@gmail.com

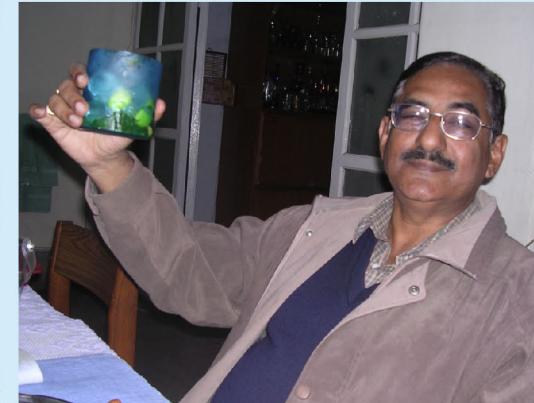
I studied class 1 and 2 at Allahabad and Calcutta where my father was posted. In 1962 he was posted to Jaipur where I joined St. Xavier's School in class 3. After schooling, I did my B.Sc. in Biology from Rajasthan University in 1974. The same year I joined the Indian Army & I got selected with 21st rank in merit for Officer's Training School. During training at OTS Madras, I suffered from knee problem and was referred to Military Hospital at Kirki which is the orthopedic center of Indian Army, near Pune. My problem was Diagnosed as Osteoarthritis an incurable disorder. Consequently, I was discharged from the Army. It was the darkest day of my life. I came back to Jaipur the following year and pursued Law. On completion of my L.L.B. degree in 1978 I became apprentice of a very senior High Court lawyer Ganpat Singh Singhvi, who later became a Supreme Court Judge. I worked with him for about a year but due to some personal reasons left and joined a Pharma Company. This company had lot of problems with the Federation of Medical Representative Association and CITU. Here my Law degree came in very handy in tackling the unions and in getting the cases resolved in Labour and Civil Courts. For two years I faced and endured a lot of physical and verbal encounters with the unions. But I emerged successful in tackling them. Pleased with my work, the pharma company USV Ltd in 1990 gave me the marketing rights for Rajasthan. I opened my company by the name Pharmak Marketing Co. Since then and up till now I am the Marketing Associate of USV Ltd. with lot of contractual changes as is common with the Corporations. I got married to Girija in April 1980 and we have one son Divyabhanu Singh who is married and who has one daughter & one son. I shifted out of Jaipur city and made my new home at Machwa, Kalwar Road. Recently made a resort by the name Sajjan Bagh at my farm and if you feel like having a splash in my pool your welcome anytime. Cheers.....



Rajender & Girija



Thakur & Thakurani

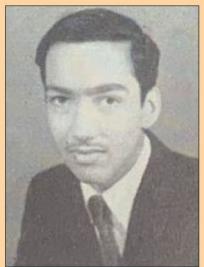


Cheers for Good Life!



Son Divyabhanu & Family

Raj Kumar Jain A.I.H.S.



1970



Recent Pic

Date of Birth : 20th Sept. 1954

Spouse : Usha

Wed. Anniv : 13th May

Jaipur Address: 34, Uniyara Gardens
Govind Marg, Jaipur 302004

Phone : 9828555262

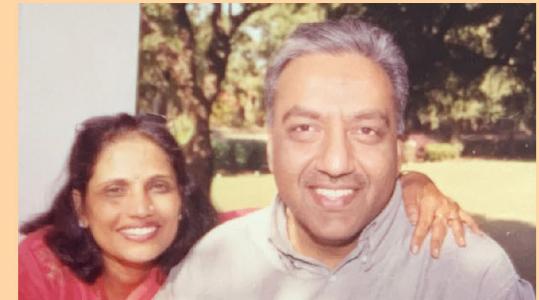
E-mail : caram@mail.com

Germany Add. : Sachsenweg 36, 55743
Idar Oberstein Germany

Phone No : + 49 172 6825214

Website : www.caram.de

I joined St. Xavier's, Jaipur in January 1968 in the Std. 9th. My stay at the school was a short 3 years, but these were the formative years. I highly appreciate the education received and the friends I made there. Upon passing out from school, I went to the Commerce College, Jaipur. Two batch mates, Tarun Jhunjhunwala and Aditya Soman, were also with me at the College. After college I apprenticed in the family business of Gemstones for about a year. In April 1975, I moved to Idar-Oberstein, Germany to set up a Gemstone business on my own. In 1977, I married Usha, who has been my pillar of great support ever since. We are blessed with two sons. The elder son Rahul is based in Hong Kong and runs our Gemstone business there. The younger son Rohin is Managing Director at a Private Equity firm in London. We are blessed with three grandchildren, aged 3 to 6 years. All in all, God has been very kind.



Raj Kumar with Usha



Elder son Rahul with Family



Younger son Rohin with Family



With Carnival Beauties

26.08.2017



Rajesh Gupta A.I.H.S.



1970



Recent Pic

Date of Birth : 6th June 1954
Spouse : Renu
Wed. Anniv : 1st March
Address : Gupta Diagnostic Centre
27, Sanjay Marg. Hathroi, Jaipur
Phone : 9829051846
E-mail : dr_pabuwal@hotmail.com

I joined St Xavier's school in KG in 1960. I remember Mrs Malviya fondly. I took tuitions from her to take a double promotion from 4th to 6th standard. I passed AIHS in 1971. I did my MBBS and MD General Medicine from SMS medical College, Jaipur. I started my private practice as a Consultant Physician in Jaipur in 1982. I also run a diagnostic centre, "Gupta Diagnostic Centre" at my residence. My wife Renu, is a graduate in home science and a house wife. I have two sons. The elder one is Dr Basant Gupta, MDS in Prosthodontist and an Implantologist at Apex Hospital. Jaipur. His wife, Dr Astha Gupta. BDS is running the dental department at Abhishek Hospital, Jaipur. They have a daughter Aarvi. My younger son, Adhip Gupta, is a software engineer, working for META (Facebook) and is settled in California, US. His wife, Isha Gupta, C.S. & LLB is a housewife.. I have always been a sports loving person playing all outdoor games in school, though restricted to cricket & golf in college days. I have won many tournaments in Golf including the Bank of Baroda sponsored World Cup Corporate Golf Tournament 2023. I am an ardent fan of evergreen actor Dev Anand & at times mimic him. I love dancing & love to listen old songs of sixties to eighties.



Rajesh & Renu



Rajesh & Renu with their two sons & their wives in Paris



Hole-in-One!



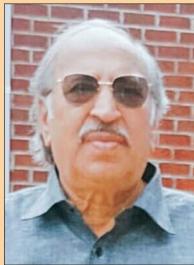
"Hai Apna Dil To Awara"



Rajesh Sharma A.I.H.S.



1970

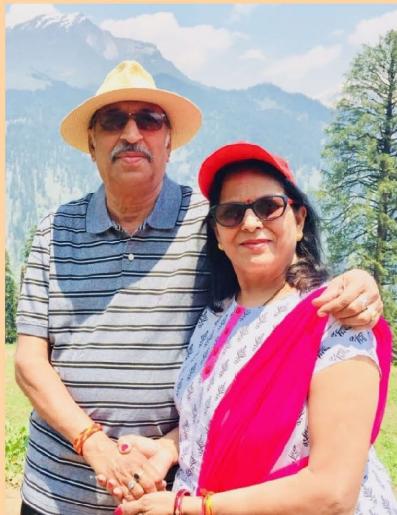


Recent Pic

Date of Birth : 23rd Jan 1953
Spouse : Usha Gaur
Wed. Anniv : 1st July
Address : 655, Rani Sati Nagar,
Ajmer Road, Jaipur 302019
Phone : 9351587205
E-mail : rajeshsharma1@gmail.com

I joined St. Xavier's in 1958 in Infant class. My class teacher was Mr. Wadwa who was loved by all the little students because he used to tell stories and sing songs. In later years I was frequently caned by Fr. Raberio for speaking in Hindi. I did my AIHS with Biology and was a regular visitor to the swimming pool right from Std. II to Std. XIth. I also loved taking part in dramatics.

I did my B.Sc. in Biology from Rajasthan University and immediately joined PCI a pharma company as medical representative. Later I was promoted as the Area Manager for about 8 years. Then I joined 2 other pharma companies and later joined Torrent Pharma as Area Manager Rajasthan. After about 7-8 years I jumped into advertising and publicity by joining Interads Advertising Co. as Resident Officer Rajasthan. Now I am leading a peaceful retired life in Jaipur. My wife Usha was a Govt. teacher later got promoted to the post of Principal. My son Abhishek is General Manager in Technologies in Golcha Group. His wife Dr. Rashmi is a Professor taking MBA classes in JECRC Univ, Jaipur. They are blessed with 2 daughters. My son and his 2 daughters are also proud Xaverites. My daughter Shruti is working at International Airport at Charlotte USA. Her husband Rajesh Vyas is an IT Engineer working in a US bank. They are blessed with a son and a daughter. I thank God for all what He has given me in my life and pray that He continues blessing me and my family in future.



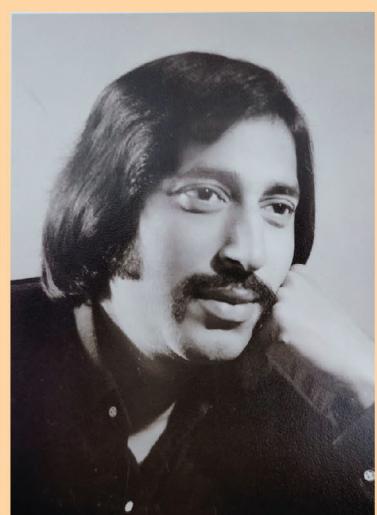
Rajesh with Usha



Rajesh & Usha with Daughter's Family



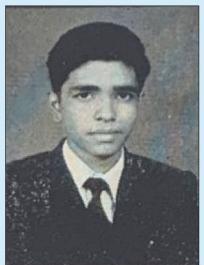
Rajesh & Usha with Son's Family



Ye Jawani Hai Dewani



Rakesh Bhandari I.S.C.



1970



Recent Pic

Date of Birth : 22nd June 1953
Spouse : Raiva
Wed. Anniv : 19th February
Address : 587-82, Takatsuka Shinden,
Matsudo, Chiba, Japan 270-2222
Phone : +81-(0) 9017557537
E-mail : rb_fitjp@yahoo.co.jp



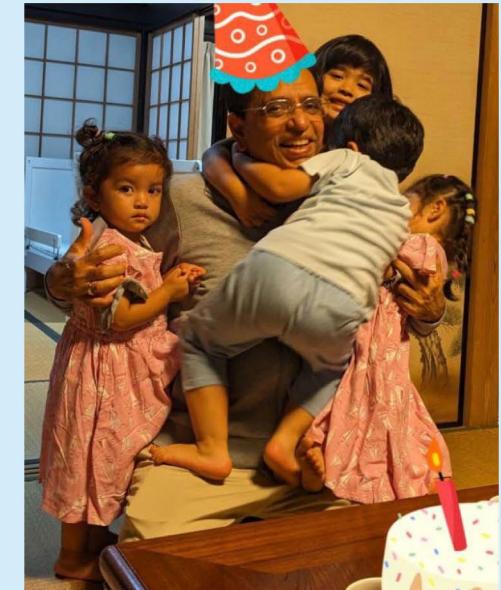
Rakesh with Raiva

I moved to St. Xavier's in 1969 in Class X from Loyola High School, Pune. As my stay in the school was quite short, many classmates may not remember me. However, I do remember most of them. Among many things that are etched in my memories are the Senior Common Room, Saturday Night Movies, Fr. Zubricky's deep-breathing exercises in the class and Fr. Totuvelli's Physics classes.

After Xavier's, I graduated from IIT Delhi in 1976 (Rohit Bhandari and Deepak Chhibba are my batch-mates.). Subsequently, I have done Master of Engineering and Doctor of Engineering from Toyohashi University of Technology, Japan. Since 1995, I have settled in Japan with my family. In India, I have worked both in the public (ITI) and private sectors (RPG and Infres). In Japan, I was a General Manager at Panasonic before becoming a consultant, first at Shimadzu Corp., and now at Optoquest Ltd. My wife, Raiva, is an English teacher in Japan, besides being socially active in promoting Indian culture and cuisine. I have two daughters, Sakura and Swati, who are both software engineers, working at IBM and Fujitsu, respectively. They are both married to Japanese boys and have brought us happiness by being blessed with two children each. I am indebted to my school education for having molded my mind during the years when it was still supple!



Rakesh with two daughters & their families



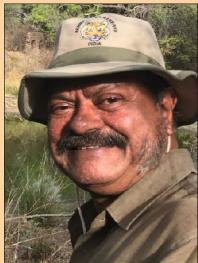
Rakesh with Grand Kids



Raman Sarda I.S.C.



1970



Recent Pic

Date of Birth : 24th March 1955
Spouse : Dr. Surita
Wed. Anniv : 20th September
Address : 39, Hospital Road,
Dr. Ram Bilas Sarda Marg,
C-Scheme , Jaipur 302001
Phone : 9314504554
Email : ramashar55@gmail.com

After school, inspired by my grandfather and father, I joined SMS Medical College, Jaipur to study medicine. Having learnt instrumental classical music from Grammy award winner, Vishwa Mohan Bhatt ji, I played guitar at several functions in college, both solo and as part of the orchestra. I was also Cultural Secretary as well as the captain of the college basket-ball team and was involved in organising a lot of cultural activities through my tenure in medical college. Don't be fooled - I did manage to study hard too and was awarded the Best Boy trophy as well as a Gold Medal in Ophthalmology during my under graduation. After completing my MS in ophthalmology, I joined the teaching faculty of SMS Hospital, Jaipur. I also underwent advanced training in Japan and did a stint in Saudi Arabia. After 20 years of service, I took voluntary retirement as an Associate Professor to join my father as a Consultant Ophthalmologist in our family owned Sarda Nursing Home.

I met the love of my life, Surita, (others were all platonic!!) while she was doing her post graduation in Lady Hardinge Medical College, Delhi. We have a son and a daughter. Shonali works as a Producer at Netflix, Mumbai. Rohan after doing his MBA from Spain, is currently heading an IT practice for a software and product development company. My interests and hobbies are diverse. I love travelling, more so now with free time on my hands. I particularly enjoy visiting wildlife sanctuaries because Nature and wild life never cease to surprise me. I am also very passionate about photography. My interest began in School itself where I learnt to develop and print black and white photographs in the school photography dark room. I indulge in bird watching (the winged ones!!!) and gardening. I enjoy cooking (limited dishes) especially out in the open on a wintery day on a 'chulha' with a bon fire and music in the company of friends. You are invited anytime.



Raman & Surita



Hunting Eagle in Kazakhstan



Best Boy Trophy 1977



Medical College Orchestra 1972



Raman with Family



Ramesh Tandon A.I.H.S.



1970



Recent Pic

Date of Birth : 26th Nov. 1954

Spouse : Preeti

Wed. Anniv : 5th February

Address : Bishanpur,
Upper Kandoli, Post Bidholi,
Prem Nagar, Dehradun 248007

Phone : 9456748894

E-mail : hostelsalwoods2014@gmail.com

I joined family business in 1974 after graduation. Not very happy with it, decided to convert my hobbies into business. Started with imports of model trains from Hornby England and LGB Germany. Indian Railways gave us good business. I was then contacted by DRDO asking if I could design some radio controlled airplanes to serve as platforms for their UAV project which I willingly did. The then Air Force chief SP Tyagi asked me if I could make some half scale display models of fighter aircrafts for display at their different commands and museums which I did. Later I made r/c aircraft models for target practice for army Air defense. Then University of Petroleum n Energy Studies, Dehradun invited me to teach aeromodelling to students of aeronautical engineering. I liked the place so much that I decided to settle in these serene surroundings. Social responsibilities were over in 2008, we shifted in 2009. Since then we have been enjoying these cool climes. I have a son & a daughter with four grand kids.



Ramesh & Preeti



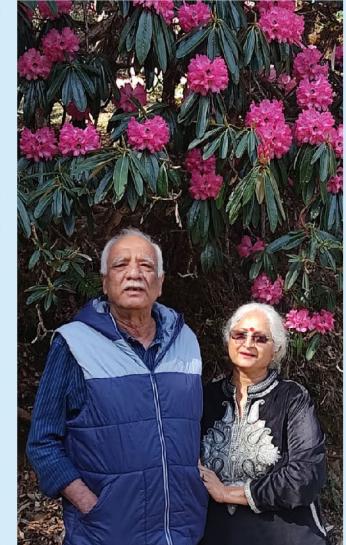
Seth & Sethani



Son & Daughter-in-law



Daughter & Son-in-law

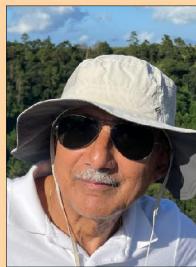


Made for Each Other

Raphael Verghese I.S.C.



1970



Recent Pic

I joined Xavier in 1968, in the 9th & the hostel, the next year. I was the quiet kid: easily forgotten - decent at studies but completely uninterested; good at Badminton, TT and athletics and very interested. After school, I got a good JEE rank and was banished to IIT and thereafter to XLRI, kicking & screaming all the way, at the thought of more studies. Little did I know that IIMA and Harvard Business School stints lurked. After graduating, I worked in India (DCM/Shriram, AF Ferguson, Nagarjuna Finance) for 8 odd years, before shifting to Oman (founding CEO of Muscat Finance - 21 years & SME Development Fund 7 years). In between, I tried 'retiring' (2008 -2011) and returned to India to mentor ESAF as it prepared to become ESAF BANK. I quit SME Fund in 2018 to join Stanford University for an assignment in East Africa. In COVID we got stuck in Sydney for 18 months and I finally threw in the towel and retired properly, enjoying travelling (71 countries and counting) & the grandkids.

I continued competitive sport (badminton, TT, swimming, squash ... & scuba recreationally) till I was in the 40s and have injured most of the body as a consequence. Last effort was the 220 km 'Camino de Santiago' from Porto (Portugal) to Santiago (Spain), last year. I did the Napa Valley marathon & the Bakersfield half marathon during my first "retirement". Alas, my steadily deteriorating COPD (asthma for the past 65 years) will ensure none of these are repeated. The apogee of XLRI was my classmate Meera Suares (who subsequently worked as a banker), we married in 1982 and have 3 children. Divya has her degree & masters in engineering & an MBA from UMich and works in Houston with PWC. Rohan has an engineering degree from UMich, an MBA from Kellogg & works as a consultant in Illinois. Anisha, a gynec. (UniMelb), is the only married child. She practices in Kenya at present & has two children.



Raphael & Meera



Raphael, son in law Phyl, Anisha, Meera, Divya & Rohan



Self, Divya, Meera, Anisha, Rohan, Phy



Journeying Together



M.G. Ravi Sudarshan A.I.H.S.



1970



Recent Pic

Date of Birth :
 Spouse : Padmini
 Wed. Anniv :
 Address : 172-Y 13th Main,
 3rd Block, Rajajinagar
 Bengaluru-560010
 Phone : 9880819893
 E-mail : ravisudarshan23@gmail.com

I joined St. Xaviers in 8th std. and completed my AIHS in 1970. I have some wonderful memories of my time here that I continue to fondly cherish. I recall learning swimming, with a short stint where I was coached in cricket by Mr. Marshall. I've also played table tennis, tennis, basketball, carrom and chess with some very worthy opponents. I had enrolled in the NCC's Air Wing and completed my solo flight by glider after 60 flights. In my 10th boards, I scored a distinction in Sanskrit with the second highest score in our class. After my AIHS, I joined Maharaja's College Jaipur for my B.Sc. degree. During my 2nd year, I became the college chess champion – a title I continued to hold in my 3rd year too. Our team won the University of Rajasthan Inter-collegiate Chess Tournament held at Bikaner in 1973-74. I also won the title of carrom doubles champion the same year.

After graduation, I began my career working temporarily at the State Bank of Bikaner and Jaipur (SBBJ) in Jaipur. I joined evening college in Rajasthan University alongside to do my LLB. Right before the 2nd year exam, I received a job offer as Auditor in the A.G.'s office, Jaipur. After working there for a year, I went back to SBBJ in 1977 where I secured a permanent job. The same year, SBBJ opened a branch in my hometown – Bengaluru and I was lucky to get a transfer. I had a fruitful career in SBBJ, donning several hats over the years until my retirement in 2014. Alongside my career, I have been involved in spiritual activities of The Sri Sathya Sai Seva Organization and continue to do so. After coming to Bengaluru, being interested in Carnatic Music, I learnt to play the mrudangam and the tabla. I got married in 1984 and my wife Padmini Ravi Sudarshan is a Hindustani Classical singer. My only child Sai Prasanna works in Corporate Communications at Mercedes-Benz R&D India. Her husband Vishnu Sai is a Talent Sourcing Specialist in Confluent. They have a five-year-old, Sai Vibhuti.



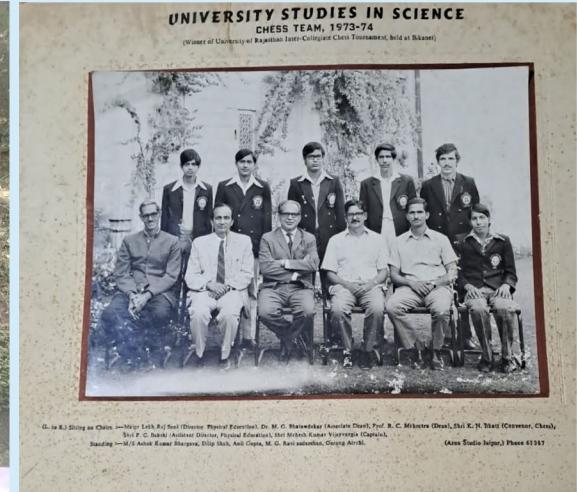
Ravi with Padmini



Daughter Sai Prasanna with 'Dougie'



Daughter & her Family



Chess Champ (standing 2nd from right)



Rohit Bhandari I.S.C.



1970



Recent Pic

Date of Birth : 10th September 1954

Spouse : Abha

Wed. Anniv : 11th March

Address : The World Spa East,
Apt. No. A2-1401, Sector 30,
Gurgaon -122001

Phone : 9810319910

E-mail : rohitbhandari54@gmail.com

When the ISC results came, I was pleasantly surprised to find that I had scored a 1 point in my favourite subject English Literature, which I believed would guarantee me admission to my dream course of English Literature Honours at St. Stephens. Alas, at the same time I managed to score a decent all India rank in the IIT entrance examination and before I knew anything I found myself being firmly steered by my dominating father towards a career in Chemical Engineering. That's how I ended up qualifying initially as a reluctant chemical engineer, but that's another story altogether!

After school I joined B. Tech in Chemical Engg. in IIT Delhi (71 to 76). Thereafter I did PG Diploma in Foreign Trade from IIFT Delhi (76-77). Soon after I got a job as a Sales Engineer at Larsen & Toubro International Division, where I worked from August 1977 to February 1980. After working with L&T in their International Division in Mumbai for three years, I joined their agent Al Najim Saudi International Company Ltd., (NASICO) in Saudi Arabia In March 1980, I shifted to Damman where I had a long stint & worked my way up from Sales Engineer to Group General Manager till 1996. I spent the rest of my career working for the same family owned business group. When I joined it was a small trading company and over the next 40 years I helped build the group into one of the well known engineering supplies and services groups (consisting of five verticals) in Saudi Arabia dealing in the Oil / Gas production & refining, Petrochemical, Power Generation / Transmission / Distribution and water desalination industries. I moved back to India in December 2017 and set up home in Gurgaon while still continuing to work with my employers in Saudi Arabia as the group GM till mid 2019 and subsequently as a Management Consultant. I married Abha and we have two sons Siddharth (Oncology Marketing, Astra Zeneca, Maryland, USA) and Dhruv (Global Contracts & Risk at Google Cloud, Atlanta, USA). Both are engineers from Georgia Tech and are living in the USA with their families.



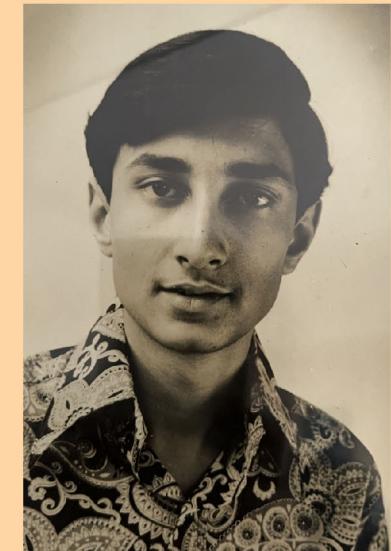
Rohit with Abha



At Monterrey overlooking the Pacific



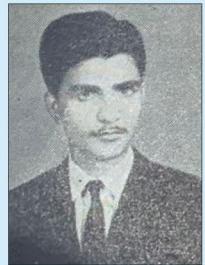
Bhandari Family Picture



Swinging 70's Pic



Subhash Pareek I.S.C.



1970



Recent Pic

Date of Birth : 2nd July 1953
Spouse : Kirti
Wedd. Anniv : 30th June
Address : 152/43, Shipra Path,
Mansarovar, Jaipur-302020
Phone : 7023445532
E-mail : subhashpareek110@gmail.com

I joined Xavier's in the middle of the session in Section B of class 7 in 1966. Before this I went through many schools. I took some time to adjust to Xavier's which was and still is a very prestigious school. The buildings were imposing and so was the general atmosphere with Prefects and Padres. I was mortally scared of things called pink & grey cards. I didn't want a card, not after all the trouble my father had taken to get me admitted. Slowly, I got comfortable in the school atmosphere and made some friends. My involvement in sports was limited to running the cross country race thrice, base ball & volley ball in the last period and shooting a few baskets during lunch time. Time passed by and I completed school in December 1970 (ISC Batch) with Science, Biology and optional mathematics as my additional subject.

After the ISC exams my elder brother told me about the IITs and the entrance exam. As I had to wait until July 1971 for colleges to start, I sat for the exam and got through. I had dreamt of becoming a doctor all along. This event made me a Mechanical Engineer. At IIT Kanpur life was stressful because of the competition. To cope with the stress I took to sports in a serious way. I played hockey and basket ball. I represented IIT Kanpur at the Inter-IIT Games in Weightlifting events. After graduating from IIT Kanpur I was with various employers in India and finally landed a job in Kuwait as a maintenance engineer in a contracting company. I spent most of my life in the gulf countries working sometimes as a construction and sometimes as a maintenance engineer. I have worked in Kuwait, UAE, Qatar and small stints in Oman and Algeria. In 2013 after I had attained the age of 60 years I decided to retire. Since then I am in Jaipur. I spend my time dabbling in the stock market, watching TV and little bit of reading. My family consists of me, my wife Kirti, my daughter Smita. My daughter got married in Dec. 2017 to Mr. Romesh Yadav. Romesh works in Canara Bank, Chomu Branch and Smita is presently teaching in Vision RAS/IAS Coaching Institute.



With Kirti



Daughter Smita with Husband



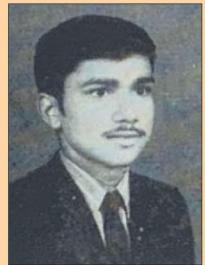
With old school friends



Happy Together



Sushil Saboo A.I.H.S.



1970



Recent Pic

Date of Birth : 28 October 1952

Spouse : Neeta

Wed. Anniv : 7th December

Address : Boring Canal Road, Khaitan Lane,
Durga Acropolis,
Patna 800-001

Phone : 7544007469

E-mail :



With grandson

I joined St. Xavier's in IIIrd Std. and left it in 1970 after completing All India Higher Secondary examination. While in school I was very good in sports especially Basketball and Table Tennis. I had school colors in Basketball. I was a good in studies also. After passing out of school I did my B.A. from Rajasthan University and soon after I shifted to Patna my ancestral home in the year 1974. Here I joined our textile family business.

In 1978 I got married to Neeta and we had two children- one son & one daughter. My son Alok is married to Neetu and has blessed us with two grand kids My daughter Shilpa is married to Shishir and blessed with one son. For last 42 years I have been doing Raymond business. My son helps me in my business. Our annual turnover is 125 Crore. For last 1-2 years I have not been in good health but I'm been well looked after by my wife & daughter. I am staying in my own house in Patna. If you come to Patna please come to see me.



Sushil with wife and family members



Sarvatma Dayal A.I.H.S



1970



Recent Pic

Date of Birth : 29 July 1954
Spouse : Charoo
Wed. Anniv. : 18th Dec.
Address : B289, Sarita Vihar,
New Delhi 110076
Phone : 9650990640
E-mail : mathsd@gmail.com

I joined St. Xavier's in Std II C during the midterm in July of 1961. The next 10 years were a mixture of studies & games, fun & mischief, praise & punishment, achievements & disappointments, learning & dreaming and of course growing up. It was also time for passing out from a shielded controlled school environment to a freer wilder world. After school, I graduated in Electrical Engg from MLN Regional Engg College, Allahabad in 1976 and thoroughly enjoyed my Hostel stay (which I used to envy in school being a day scholar). I had learned Basketball during the lunch recesses at school which proved a boon as I went on to Captain the College BB team which won the local tournament in 1975-76 defeating Medical College Allahabad.

I joined NTPC a few years after graduation. Remember the period in the 70s and 80s when we faced scheduled power cuts every day, apart from the unscheduled ones. NTPC was newly setup by GOI for increasing power generation. Like other young engineers, I was picked up for training on 400kV equipment at Linz, Austria and Aarau, Switzerland. From there to Korba in the interiors of MP was a great contrast. But I really enjoyed working at the project - the atmosphere was such that everyone contributed to his maximum ability. I was also majorly involved in planning & identifying new projects in the Corporate office at NTPC HQ, New Delhi. Today NTPC is a 73 Gigawatt company and we have forgotten about the power cuts with 24/7 availability. I retired as General Manager in 2014 and joined EEC, a Consultancy firm as its Managing Director.

Since 2016 I am professionally retired but engaged full time in irritating my wife Charoo, MA(Eng) B.Ed. Our daughter Saumya (Masters in International Business from Bristol Business School, UK), is married to a Greek national, has a daughter and is working & settled in Bristol. My son Samarth did his Masters in Computer Science from Utah, USA and after working at AWS, Amazon, Seattle for 6 yrs is now working, along with a couple of his friends, on their own start up.



Sarvatma with Charoo



Saumya & Family

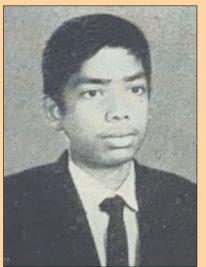


Samarth with Mother



Sarvatma at EEC conference (extreme right)

C.R. Seetharam I.S.C.



1970



Recent Pic

Date of Birth : 17th Oct. 1954
Spouse : Late Rama
Wed. Anniv : 6th February
Address : 211 8th Cross HMT layout,
Mathikere, Bangalore 560054
Phone : 9845075953 / 7019129653
E-mail : crsram54@gmail.com

After school I shifted to Poona & subsequently got into IIT Mumbai. After that I joined IIM Kolkata. In 1978 I joined Indal in Muri, Bihar. I left Indal in 1980 & then joined Karnataka Beverages as Plant Manager. Left the Company in 1981 and took to consulting under the name of Project & Systems. Till 2017 I ran the firm & then retired.

I married Rama in 1981. My son was born in 1982 & daughter in 1986. Rama passed on 1996 due to ovarian cancer. I have been in Bangalore from 1980. My son is in Cambridge, UK & daughter is an Advocate.



Holidaying in Bali



Rama with Son



Son with Grandson



Daughter



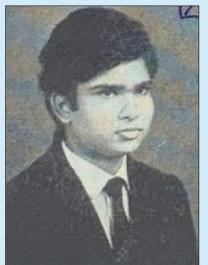
With Grandson



Honour by IIT Bombay



Shailesh Srivastava A.I.H.S.



1970



Recent Pic

Date of Birth : 4th Sept. 1954
Spouse : Dr. Abha Srivastava
Wed. Anniv. : 31st October
Address : Brij Vihar A-16,
Vijay Path, Tilak Nagar,
Jaipur 302004
Phone : 9928408372
E-mail : jphosp@gmail.com

Joined St Xavier in first standard in 1960, our class teacher was Miss Lal, studied all throughout till 1970, did 1 year in Maharajas college, was selected for medical along with 14 other Xavier batch mates, it was a record of sorts at that time. Passed out in 1979, got married to Abha during my First year residency, in the same year did my MS in Ophthalmology with Raman and Pavan in the same batch, started a modest private practice in Ophthalmology and Gynecology,

Two children - Samaresh my son did his post graduation in Ophthalmology from Shankar Netralaya, Chennai and his fellowship from Ahmedabad, married to Dr Vaishali also an Ophthalmologist, blessed with a daughter Aanya now 10 years old. Both joined private practice in Jaipur and running on state of the art, tertiary care, Raghudeep Eye Hospital. My daughter Shreya is working for Pepsico and is based in Gurgaon, married to Akash who is head of Non Airport Revenue for GMR, presently for all the Terminals of IGI Airport Delhi, blessed with a daughter Navisha.

School memories can never be forgotten as enumerated by all, special mention of the lunch break, with our puny tiffin boxes, sharing exotic stuff from the well laid out table of Aditya and Tarun !! The beautiful and colourful maple leaves given by Father Mayer when he came back from his trip to Canada, the blaring music from the Senior lounge....and innumerable others. Of special mention is the constant kitty parties we are having since 1995, after our Pushkar meet, which are still continuing and helped us make unforgettable bonds, and lovely memories.



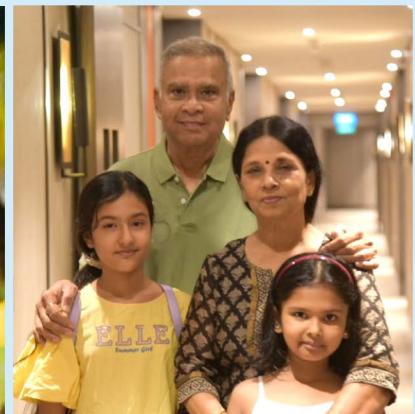
Shailesh & Abha



Son Samaresh with Vaishali



Daughter Shreya & Akash



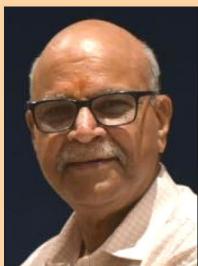
With Grand Kids



Srikant Bulakh A.I.H.S.



1970



Recent Pic

Date of Birth : 25th Nov. 1953

Spouse : Rekha Bulakh

Wed. Anniv. : 8th July

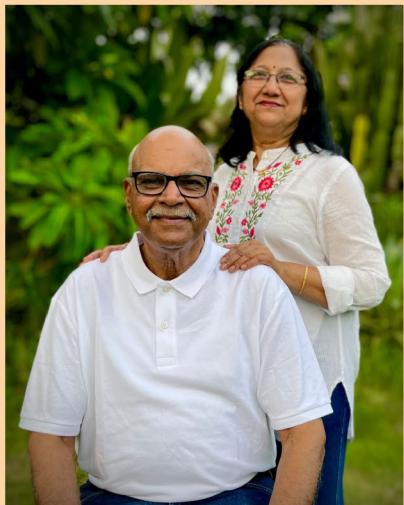
Address : 13, Gopalbari
Ajmer Road, Jaipur 302001

Phone : 9829005716

E-mail : srikantbulakh@yahoo.co.in

I joined St Xavier school in 1957-58, did my infant and prep the same year and was promoted to the first standard. My journey in school had its ups and downs. I was never impressed by the Fathers of school. I was subject to caning and bend overs for reasons best known to them. I was a proud recipient of two Pink cards. I signed them on my father's behalf and returned them to the vice principal. I did my AIHS and was a sport enthusiast. Played basketball, hand ball and cricket. In college I was the captain of the basketball team and I was good in athletics.

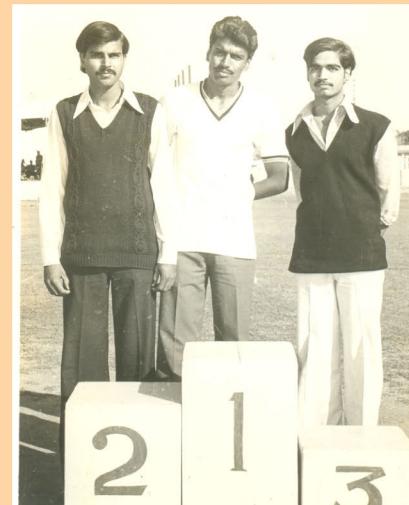
I did my MBBS and MS in General Surgery from SMS Medical College, Jaipur. I joined government service as a Civil Assistant Surgeon at Government leprosy Hospital, Agra road, Jaipur. There I did surgeries to correct the deformities of the unfortunate Leprosy patients. My work attracted the attention of Actor Anupam Kher who featured me in his program, Gold Coin, aired on Doordarshan. I left government service after four years and joined a corporate hospital, Jaipur Hospital where I was head of the department of Surgery and the Medical Superintendent. Here I excelled in Laparoscopic surgeries. I have done more than 15000 laparoscopic surgeries and continue to do so. I was awarded Fellowship in Minimal Invasive Surgery. Now I impart training to the new surgeons. My wife, Rekha, has specialized in Montessori teaching and is the Directress of Environment in the Loharu Montessori school in Jaipur. I have two children. My son, Sumit and his wife Samira are software engineers and are working for a MNC in Austria. They are blessed with two daughters. My daughter, Rashi, has done her Masters in Hotel Management and is married to Ketan Salpekar, they reside in Nagpur. They are blessed with a daughter. Overall, my journey of life has been satisfying and I pray that it remains the same in the dusk of our lives. I pray to the Almighty to keep my friends and their families in good shape.



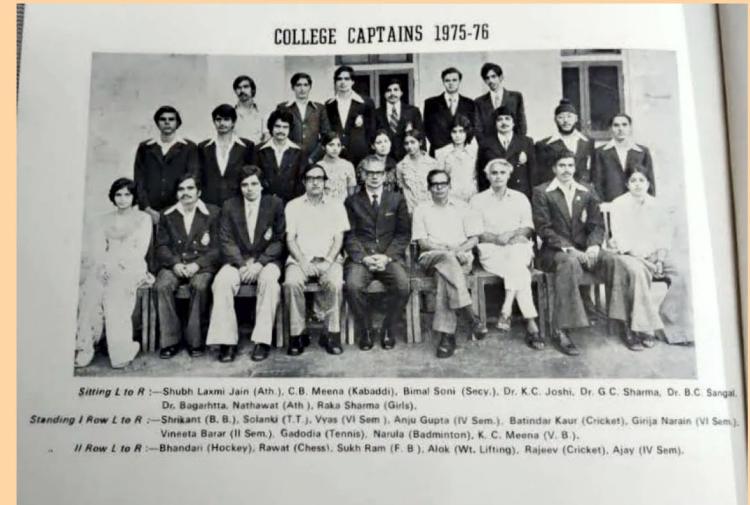
Srikant & Rekha



Srikant & Rekha with their Family



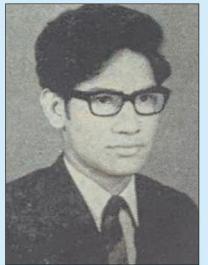
Winner High & Long Jump SMS



COLLEGE CAPTAINS 1975-76

*Sitting L to R :—Shubh Laxmi Jain (Ath.), C.B. Meena (Kabaddi), Bimal Soni (Secy.), Dr. K.C. Joshi, Dr. G.C. Sharma, Dr. B.C. Sangal, Dr. Baghirita, Nathawati (Ath.), Raka Sharma (Girls),
Standing 1 Row L to R :—Shrikant (B. B.), Solanki (T.T.), Vyas (VI Sem.), Anju Gupta (IV Sem.), Batindar Kaur (Cricket), Girija Narain (VI Sem.),
Vineeta Barar (II Sem.), Gadodia (Tennis), Narula (Badminton), K. C. Meena (V. B.),
II Row L to R :—Bhandari (Hockey), Rawat (Chess), Sukh Ram (F. B.), Alok (Wt. Lifting), Rajeev (Cricket), Ajay (IV Sem.).*

Captain Basketball SMS



1970



Recent Pic

Date of Birth : 13th Nov. 1953
Spouse : Sarla Bakliwal
Wed. Anniv. : 27th January
Address : Bakliwal Dental Clinic
61-Jatin Das Road, Kolkata-700029
Phone : 9831086875
E-mail : drbakliwal@gmail.com

I joined school in 1962-63 in 4th std. I did my premedical from Maharaja College Jaipur (1st & 2nd yr B.Sc) in 1972. Thereafter I joined BDS in year 1973 & completed it in 1977-78. After I got my degree, I worked in various hospitals (S.V.S Hospital) & charitable clinics in Kolkata. Finally I started my own private practice in the year 1980 in Kolkata. I am a Dental Surgeon & have specialized in Cosmetic Dentistry from Dr R A Dental College & Hospital, Kolkata. I have been practicing Dental Surgery for last 45 yrs. I was first to start Ceramic Dental Lab in Kolkata and I specialize in Crown & Bridge.

My wife is Sarla Bakliwal. My elder son, Saurabh Bakliwal (BE & MBA-IIM Bangalore) BCG-Director & Sr Partner. His wife is Mini Bakliwal. They have two children, Inaaya and Saira. My younger Son is Satyam Bakliwal. He is BE & MBA from Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh - USA, is working in Google - San Francisco. His wife is Vershali Bakliwal and they have two sons, Abir and Aakar. I love traveling specially to religious places & temples. I enjoy reading Jain philosophy and scriptures.



Subhadra and Sarla



Elder son Saurabh & Mini

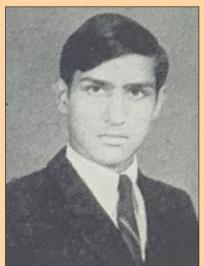


Elder son Saurabh & Mini



Younger son Satyam & Vershali

Sudhanidhi Kasliwal I.S.C.



1970



Recent Pic

Date of Birth : 19th August 1953
Spouse : Late Anuradha Mohan
Wed Anniv. : 16th July
Address : Sumukho 13-16, Kasliwal Path
Mangal Vihar, Gopalpura Byepass
Jaipur
Phone : 9829057720
E-mail : sudhanidhikaliwal@gmail.com

I joined St. Xavier's Jaipur in 1958 in Kindergarten where Ms Alexander was the class teacher. Hereafter I studied up to 11th Std. and passed I.S.C. Arts with 60%. In school I played all games available but excelled in Basketball and represented the School B team in Football and went on to represent Rajasthan in Softball in Lucknow. After school, I went to Delhi University and did my B.A. Honours in History from Hindu College in 1974. I was the Captain of the Hindu Basketball Team. Thereafter, for post graduation I joined I.R. (Industrial Relations) in XLRI or the Xavier School of Management at Jemshedpur. There also I was the Captain of the Basketball team. Soon after I got married to Anuradha Mohan and joined our family automobile business where I grew up in and added to the growth of the business. Everything was sailing smoothly when during the pandemic I lost my wife to Covid in 2021. I have two daughters both are married and happily settled. With God's Grace and good wishes of friends and family, life continues with quiet happiness.



Cheers to good life & times.



With old friends



Elder daughter & family



Kasliwal Bros. with Maharaj Padmanabh



With Anuradha



Younger daughter & family



Sumit Das I.S.C.



1970



Recent Pic

Date of Birth : 30th April 1953

Spouse : Purnima

Wed. Anniv. : 31st January

Address : 49, Sanjay Colony,
RPA Road, Jaipur-302016

Phone : 7728903530

E-mail : sumit.das1953@gmail.com

I came from Bahrain where my dad was working in petroleum refinery. There I was learning English & Arabic. My father sent me to live with my 'bhua' in Jaipur, so that I could acquire an "Indian" education. I was admitted into Xavier's in Std. V where Mrs. Bhandari introduced me to the Hindi alphabets for the first time while my class mates were writing essays in Devnagri. Subsequently, I bumbled through the many years in school struggling not only with Hindi but also Mathematics! However, I got the first prize in Moral Science!!

After school I joined Maharaja's College and attempted PMT and missed it by a mark. So I continued to finish my B.Sc. in Biology. Since I have argumentative Bengali genes I thought I will make a career in courts of law. So I did my L.L.B. from Rajasthan University in 1979 mostly spending time not in the classroom but on the steps of the Central Library with Rajendra Singh Bana in company, admiring the beauties come and go. When it came to practicing law, I was inspired by my neighborhood friends to write the Public Service competitive exams. I made it to the Indian Customs and Central Excise.

I was a small fry within the System but I had a great time serving in various Departments. With adrenaline rushing, many times I struck deals as a decoy customer trying to buy heroin and gold biscuits. Any slip up would have meant instant liquidation. The white collars criminals were equally dangerous with their political connections. There are far too many experiences to narrate here but suffice is to say that eventually I survived this razor sharp environment and finally retired unscathed in 2013 as Additional Commissioner. I consider this to be the major achievement of my life!!! I married Purnima in 1982 and have a son Rochit, a marine engineer in Singapore. He is married to Sneha and they have a son Yash. Daughter Shiuli is working in film production in Mumbai. Although most of my health parameters are ok but I have a severe case of Glaucoma. I seemed to have lost my sight but definitely not my 'vision'! And also my sense of humour.



With Purnima



Son Ruchit with Family



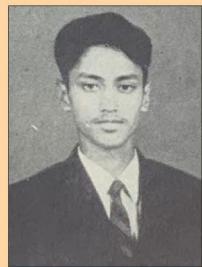
Daughter Shiuli



Operative Incognito



Sunil Agarwal A.I.H.S.



1970



Recent Pic

Date of Birth : 6th May 1954
Spouse : Divorcee
Wed. Anniv. :
Address : Chinmaya Navin
Sevashram Nyas,
28B Shilakhana,
Prayagraj - 211004
Phone : 98290 66443
E-mail : sunagr@gmail.com

69 evokes varied memories as it is famous for more than one reason. Most of us are now in our 69th year of this life cycle recounting our journey from 1970s onwards. When I look back my belief in reincarnation is doubly reinforced since all the fantastic things / people I encountered in this life couldn't be due to my karma of this life. I never imagined 10 years ago that I would be living in an ashram and leading a spiritual life and that too in Prayagraj. I don't regret but rather revel in this blessed phase of life. I may well become the first officially ordained sanyasi of our batch. I joined Xavier's in class 7C from St. Jude School. I won 2 talent contests, Hindi senior elocution gold medal, and played a leading role in the winning senior Hindi drama. Was Editor of Tarun magazine and President of Hindi debating society. Represented the school in Cricket and managed the Junior cricket net with Marshal sir overseeing the senior net. After I did my AIHS, I completed BA Hons. from BITS, Pilani in 1974 and my MBA from XLRI in 1976.

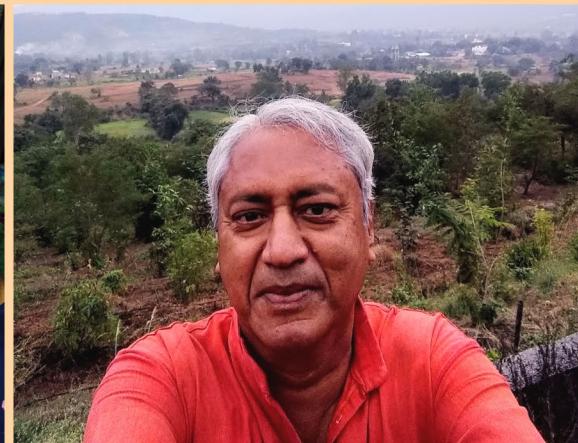
I worked with several top Indian corporations and MNCs from 1976 to 2009 including Jay Engineering (Usha Fans and Sewing Machines), Apollo Tyres, Ceat Tyres, Ashok Leyland etc. I thereafter moved to Jaipur in my mother's home and did LL.B. from Rajasthan University. I first got married on 22 November 1978 and got divorced on 7 December 2007. We had children, Son Harshit, who is a US citizen and Neha who lives in Delhi. I married again in May 2008 and separated in October 2013. I am good at many things but marriage is not one of them! When my mother left her body in June 2013, I left home same year in October to pursue a spiritual life with Chinmaya Mission. I found my Satguru in June 2015 in Brahmleen Swami Subhodanand and studied Vedanta under him. I am a Trustee of the Mission's Prayagraj Trust. I now live in and serve the Prayagraj Ashram of the Trust. This is what Shruti calls Shreyas or auspicious.



At the Ashram



Daughter, Son-in-Law & Grand Son



Selfie of the Sanyasi



With son Harshit & grand kids



Tarun Jhunjhunwala I.S.C.



1970



Recent Pic

Date of Birth : 30 Sept. 1954
Spouse : Usha
Wed. Anniv. : 11th December
Address : 1/3 Rowland Road, Kolkata 700020
Phone : 9987050040
E-mail : tjhun1954@gmail.com

I joined St. Xavier's School, Jaipur in the 2nd Standard in 1961. I had an enriching journey guided by fantastic Teachers. Academically, I was good – stiff competition with Deepak Chhibba. I would like to make particular mention of Father Zubricky and Father Wilzbacher who were great mentors and helped shape my personality and instill good human values. I participated in Debates, Dramatics, Scouts. Our Team of Vinay Dharwadker and I stood first in the All India Schools Debate in Pilani. I played the Violin and performed in a few School programs. I was the Co-Editor-in-chief of "X-Ray", the School Newsletter. After ISCE, I completed B.Com (Hons.) at Commerce College, Jaipur and was awarded Gold Medal for securing First Rank in Rajasthan University. Time at Commerce College was fun with Raj Jain and Aditya Soman for company. I joined the MBA Program at IIM, Ahmedabad and was awarded the GOI Scholarship for academic excellence. I joined family business and was in Jaipur, Delhi and Kolkata. In 2000, I made a career switch and joined Reliance Group at Mumbai. Since then, I have held various senior positions. Currently, I am working as President in the Group and oversee all Businesses of Reliance in 11 States of Eastern part of India, as part of Chairman's Office. I work closely with Mr Mukesh Ambani and the next generation who are now slowly taking charge.

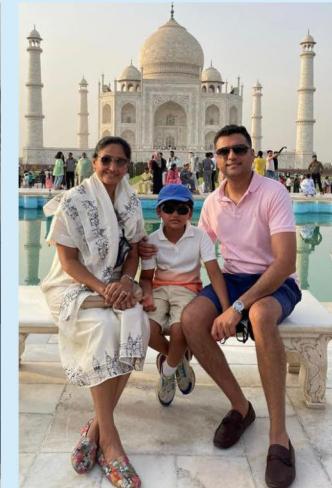
My wife Usha is a homemaker. My daughter, Smita is married to Amit and lives in Kolkata. My grandson, Anayis finishing his graduation in Mechanical Engineering and Anwitais just finishing school. My son, Umang and daughter-in-law, Surabhi live in Mumbai. I have a grandson, Viaan who will turn eight this year. Umang is successfully engaged in his business ventures. I have seen many ups and downs in life, but all said and done, the journey has been good and satisfying. I have not been great in connecting with friends due to work related occupation but make it a point not to miss a single WA Post in the Group. Bless you all!!



Usha and Tarun



Tarun and Usha with family members



Son Umang and his family

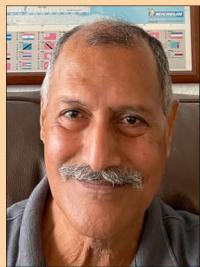


Corporate persona of Tarun

T.M. Subranium I.S.C.



1970



Recent Pic

Date of Birth : 1st Sept.1954
Spouse : Bina
Wed. Anniv : 23rd December
Address : 17120 Fremont Lane,
 Yorba Linda CA 92886, USA
Phone : 714-686-7628
E-mail : subiyer54@gmail.com

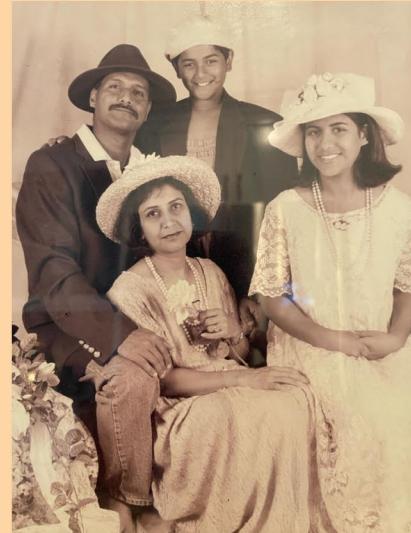
After school I went on to graduate in metallurgical engineering, with a distinct allergy to hard work of any kind, frequently blamed on laziness, but actually a deep-seated mental neurological disorder. Served in several engineering positions in India and in USA, hardly working. Joined a small technology company in 2005, ostensibly developing questionable technologies in the energy and water sectors, with multiple equally questionable patents. Still hardly working, but I go to work every morning to lift liquid weights at the office/man-cave throughout the duration of the working day, 24/7. Family is ruled with an iron fist by wife, Bina (an accountant by profession, and tight-fisted with distributing weekly allowances to her one and only loving husband): a daughter, Urvashi, a speech therapist by profession, married to a civil engineer, Ryan, and ruled with imperious impertinent impunity by their son, Eli. My son, Neel, an obstetrician/gynecologist by profession is busy making and delivering babies into this world.



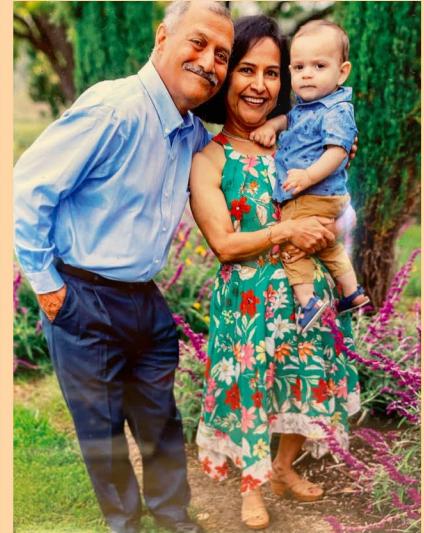
T.M. with Bina



T.M. & Bina with their son, daughter her husband & child



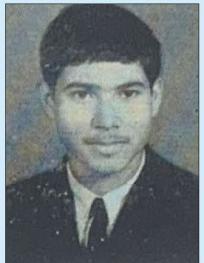
T.M. with Family



Proud Grandparents



V.P. Singh A.I.H.S.



1970

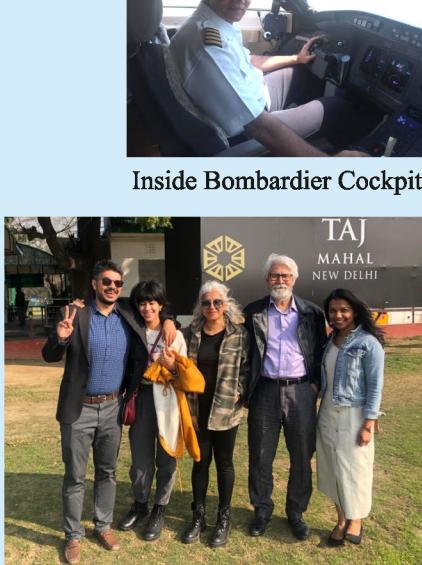


Recent Pic

Date of Birth : 1st March 1955
Spouse : Mukta Singh
Wed. Anniv. : 8 December 1982
Address : 832 Sector 21,
 Pocket E, Gurugram.
Phone : 9971790884
E-mail : vpmdm@hotmail.com



MiG 21 Pilot



V.P. & Mukta with family



Inside Bombardier Cockpit



Corporate Business Jet flown by V.P.



As aerobatic pilot flying Hunter



With Family Members



Thunderbolts over Brahmaputra



Vijay Shah A.I.H.S.



1970



Recent Pic

Date of Birth : 3rd March 1953
Spouse : Hema
Wed. Anniv. : 23rd November
Address : F-101, Ganpati Enclave,
Ajmer Road, Jaipur
Phone : 9828152270
E-mail : shahvj1@gmail.com

I joined the school in the sixth standard and was out in the mid of 9th standard. After that I graduated from Commerce college. Though I have polio in both my legs, I was still a good sportsman, I represented Rajasthan state and University of Rajasthan in Table Tennis. Besides that, I am also a good swimmer. After graduating, I started my own business of exporting hand knotted carpets to the USA and the UK.

I got married in 1985 to Hema who is at present into her own food business. I have two children, Vijayeeta and Rohan, both married. Vijayeeta is a renowned stylist while Rohan and his wife Amisha run a women's wear brand.



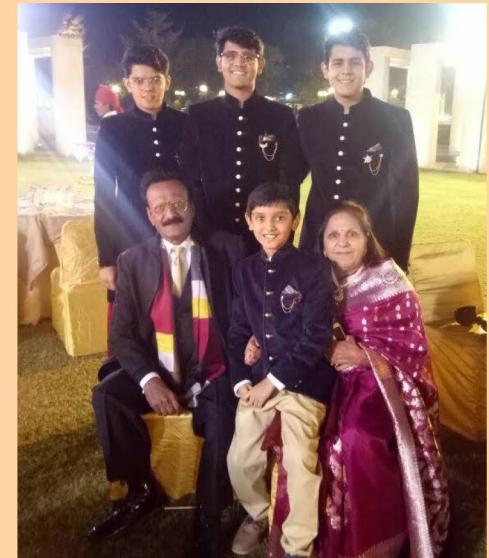
Your pic with Hema



With daughter Vijayeeta



With son Rohan



Vijay & Hema with Grand kids



Vinay Dharwadker A.I.H.S.



1970



Recent Pic

Date of Birth : 8th Sept. 1954
Spouse : Aparna
Wed. Anniv : 10th July
Address : 7625 Farmington Way,
Madison, Wisconsin 53717,
USA
Phone : 1-608-833-1451
E-mail : vdharwadker@wisc.edu
Web : www.vinaydharwadker.com

After I finished from St Xavier's, I moved to Delhi and attended St. Stephen's and DU (B.Sc. and M.Sc. in physics, 1971-76). I was in touch with many people from school in those years, from our batch and other batches. After my M.Sc., I changed fields and worked at Orient Longman, book publishers (now Orient Blackswan), for five years. In 1976, I married Aparna Bhargava Dharwadker (M.G.D., 1971 batch). During that decade, I stayed in contact with Tarun Jhunjhunwala; Tarun helped me a lot personally in 1974, and Aparna and I had a memorable visit with him in Jaipur in 1978. In 1981, Aparna and I left for the U.S. Over the next ten years, we both earned our Ph.D.'s in literature-another big change for me! Our doctoral research was done while living on the University of Chicago campus. My supervisor there was the Indian writer A. K. Ramanujan. My changing professional interests became possible because I started writing poetry in the ninth standard in Jaipur. In Delhi, while doing physics and then while working, I became a published Indian-English poet. After moving to the U.S. and with my training at Chicago, I also became a scholar of Indian and Western literatures, and a translator from five Indian languages: Hindi, Marathi, Sanskrit, Punjabi, and Urdu. Thanks in absentia to Mrs Nigam, for correcting my Hindi gently, and to Mr Brandon, for his strictness with Sanskrit memorization!

Aparna and I started our academic careers in 1989. After teaching at the Universities of Georgia and Oklahoma for some years, we joined the University of Wisconsin, and moved to the city of Madison, where we still live. We are now senior professors in the Department of English here. The person at Jaipur who thought I could become a good writer was Father Richard Extross, then our Vice-Principal. Aparna and I have two grown-up children. Our daughter Aneesha is an Assistant Professor of Architecture and lives with her young family in Chicago. Our son Sachin was trained as a film director and screenwriter in New York, and currently works in Hollywood.



Vinay & Aparna



Family portrait at daughter's wedding



Son Sachin working in Hollywood Aneesha & husband Conor O'Shea Grandkids Kieran & Kabir



Yashwant Chowdhary A.I.H.S.



1970



Recent Pic

Date of Birth : 1st July 1954
Spouse : Sushma Chowdhary
Wed. Anniv. : 22nd June
Address : 960 Green T LK W,
 Hernando, Memphis, MS,
 USA - 38632
Phone : +1(414) 517-1058
E-mail : yashchow@gmail.com

I joined St. Xavier's in July 1968 and completed my AIHS from there in July 1970. I did my MBBS from Armed Forces Medical College, Pune. I served as Doctor in the Army for 5 years. After that, I did MD in Medicine from Medical College, Baroda. I later worked in Iran, UAE, and after a brief training stint in London finally moved to the US.

I trained in General Nephrology and Transplant Nephrology. Presently I am still working in US, as Nephrologist, Internist and Emergency Medicine Physician and sampling US culture from the Caribbean to the Arctic in Alaska. I played cricket during my college days. I enjoy hiking, mountaineering, I also enjoy observing wildlife. I am into camping and photography. My wife is Sushma who is a house maker. However she is a doctor who graduated from Dr S N Medical College & retired recently in 2022. I have two sons Vibhor and Vivek, both in the IT sector.



Yashwant with Sushma



Sons with their Spouses



Sushma with Daughters in law



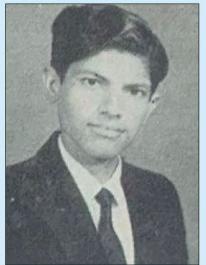
Grandkids



Yashwant with his sons Vibhor and Vivek



Zakir Hasan Khan I.S.C.



1970



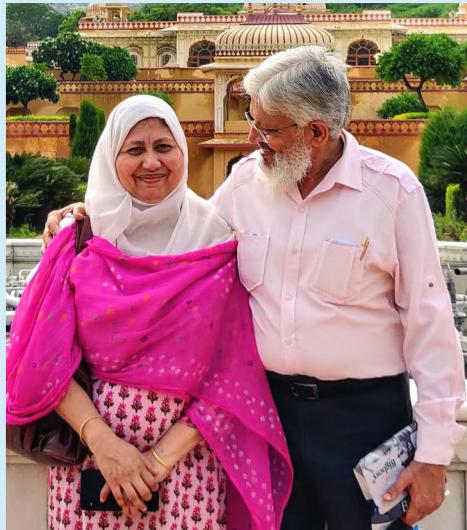
Recent Pic

Date of Birth : 18 March 1954
Spouse : Toseef Warish
Wed. Anniv. : 10th October
Address : Hikmat Manzil,
Chardarwaza Road,
Gangapole, Jaipur 302002
Phone : 9828532634
E-mail : zakirhasank@gmail.com

My school days were jam packed with extracurricular activities ranging from being the monitor from Standard I to X, Secretary of the Students Council, President of Social Service League for 4 years, Secretary of the Art Soc. Sec. Interact Club, President of Photography Club to being N.C.C. Sgt., playing on all the Reds' teams, Blue and Gold staff and X- Rays reporter. I also won the Hindi elocution competition twice and was a finalist for the same for 5 times. I also dwelled briefly in theatherics by acting in class plays and 'Glimpses of Gandhi'. After school, I did my M.B.B.S. from GMC, Srinagar and House Job from Grants Medical College, Bombay. Subsequently I began my House Job in Bombay Hospital and later Kasturba Hospital. Thereafter I have been dedicating myself to a private General Practice till date in Jaipur. My wife, Dr. Toseef, is an Anaesthesiologist working as a Senior Specialist at Rukmani Devi Memorial Government Hospital, Jaipur. My son, Ayman, is working as a Junior Resident at SMS Medical College, Department of Medicine. My daughter, Juveriya, is currently preparing for her Ph.D. in Media Governance and Cultural Studies. All in all, only a handful of my life can be traced through milestones while the rest of it has been recorded in smiles, laughter and tears - some quiet others rushed, but all surrounded by fulfillment.



Zakir with his late Father



Zakir and Toseef



Zakir and Family



Enjoying Skiing in Kashmir



First Practice at Bombay Hospital



Missing you Mates! Wish You Were Here!

See You at Diamond Jubilee



Deepak Korla ISC



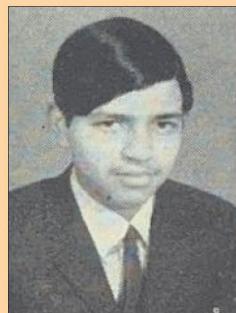
Deepak Sehgal AIHS



Mahima Dutt ISC



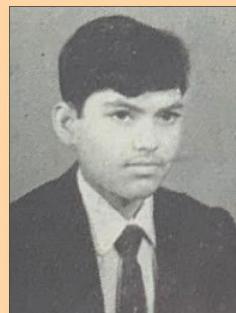
Manohar Fatehchand AIHS



Micheal Jain ISC



Pradeep Bhargava AIHS



Purushottam Vyas AIHS



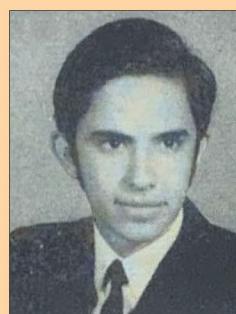
Ram Singh Ras ISC



Sunil Hoon ISC



Surendra Daswani ISC



Umesh Vaswani AIHS



IN MEMORIAM



Friends don't die.
They continue to live in our hearts & memories.



Dilip Tandon

A.I.H.S.

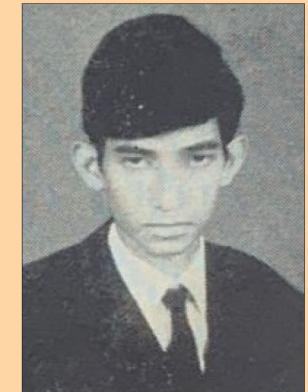


Tribute by Raj Kumar Jain

I remember Dilip Tandon as a very affable chap who used to sit in the front row. Arun Kaul and myself had a most memorable trip to Kashmir with Dilip. He was very soft spoken and very well dressed and looked like an executive. While in the Rajasthan University he stood for elections and was the vice president of the students union. He had a friendly nature and helped all those who approached him for favours. He was a deep thinking quiet person who had raised a lot of existential questions. This made him an introvert after college days and he became melancholic. He passed away peacefully in his sleep.

Ravindra Yadav

I.S.C.



Tribute by Shailesh Srivastava

Ravindra Yadav and me used to study together during our school days. I remember him to be a very simple and likeable soul, always ready to help. After doing his post graduation he prepared for Indian Administrative Services Exams. Unfortunately he could not qualify and so he became a recluse mostly staying at home where he enjoyed listening to music and body building. Since he was not in touch with his friends nobody seems to know what really happened. It was tragic to know that he had passed away. This is the suchness of life; everything feels so permanent, but it can disappear in an instant. The sorrow we feel when we lose a loved one is the price we pay to have had them in our lives.



1970

Hari Singh I.S.C.

Tribute by V.P. Singh



School made in the memory of Hari Singh

Hari was a genial and pleasant person - when in school - but not a particularly thick friend at that time. Our brief tryst together was to occur post school in the environs of the National Defense Academy at faraway Kharagwasla. We were recruited in Jan 1972, as Cadets of the 47th NDA Course. He was in Charlie Squadron and me, in Alpha. (Squadrons can be broadly equated to hostels in civilian jargon- but they meant much more than that). Hari was rarely in a hurry. He had the "*Mainu ki?*" attitude. Earth shaking things in those training days like a short delay or task not done, was not a calamity for him. Of course, he paid for it, in the form of punishment, but also elevated his worth amongst peers, by the sportsmanlike way he withstood it. 1st Term is a motherless time. There is no time for friendship, sleep, eating, or any other pleasant activity. Tired, sleepless, hungry and forever busy, one can't fathom whether one is coming or going. So, other than seeing flashes of each other while scampering from class to class or crisscrossing at PT, Parade, Equitation, Swimming, Cross Country runs or punishments, was the norm. We met usually, in the last row of the Maths class: our hated, common Waterloo. Hari quickly mastered the art of keeping his eyes wide open with a fixed glaze staring at infinity with all other faculties dormant. It was a common phenomenon induced by extreme fatigue, in 1st term. I wasn't far behind. Only my head used to hit the desktop and bounce me to momentary consciousness. When both of us idiots were to arrive for our maths retest before midterm break end, only I arrived and Hari was awaited, the teacher was quite concerned. He told me, it's not a difficult test, I'll help you guys out.

Hari had more than once said "I feel I won't come back here again." On asking why he wanted to quit, he said—"Not at all. I don't want to run away. I just feel that may not return. I don't know why?" Unknown to both, Hari was never going to come back. It was only much later that an announcement in the interval of a Wednesday movie at the NDA Auditorium said, "Your attention please. Cadet Hari Singh is admitted in the Command Hospital Poona ICU. He is on the DI list. Any Jaipur or Xavier's Jaipur Cadets desirous of meeting him, can visit the Command Hospital." Accordingly, next noon I took special liberty, changed to Mufti's and caught a bus to Poona. Reaching late in the afternoon and I asked the sister to let me into the ICU. The rules didn't allow that for reasons of carrying infection in, but I could peep through the window pane. It was a heart rending moment to see a young friend shrunken into skin and bone, reminiscent of those undernourished children from Somalia, body spent, with eyes shrunk into the sockets. He was lying sideways facing the window. He recognized me on the bed. His eyes suddenly brightened. He had no energy to move, but he winked, twice, as if to say, I see you buddy! A generous teenage soldier, snatched away by fate leaving us grieving. I salute him!



1954 - 2019

Kamal Das I.S.C.

Tribute by Sudhanidhi



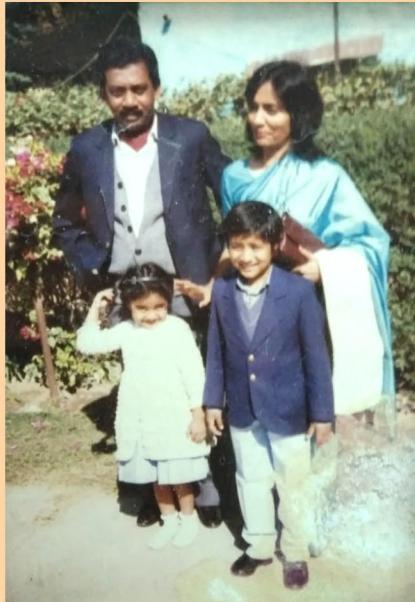
1970



2019

Spouse : Indu Das
Address : F3 First floor, Malviya Apartments, Sardar Patel Marg, C-Scheme, Jaipur 302001
Phone : +91 7727088889

Kamal Das, popularly known as K D, had joined school around 5/6 std, his father was a pilot in Air India, hence was mostly out of India. He came to Jaipur, staying with his uncle. Originally he was from Calcutta, after school and college he joined Tea Estates in Assam / West Bengal, and retired as Estate Manager. He was a very likeable soft spoken mannered chap , knew how to conduct himself in gatherings, well dressed and had a deep knowledge of tea growing and final processing. After retirement shifted to Jaipur as his wife, Indu, was also from Jaipur and had a house here. He had had a heart problem earlier and unfortunately developed it again which he could not sustain. He was proud to be an Indian and we would tease him to be a Bangally. May God rest his soul in peace.



K.D. and Family 1988



K.D. with Family 2018



K.D. in 1998-99



K.D. in Tea Gardens



1954 - 2009

Kapinder Singh A.I.H.S.

Tribute by Rajendra Singh



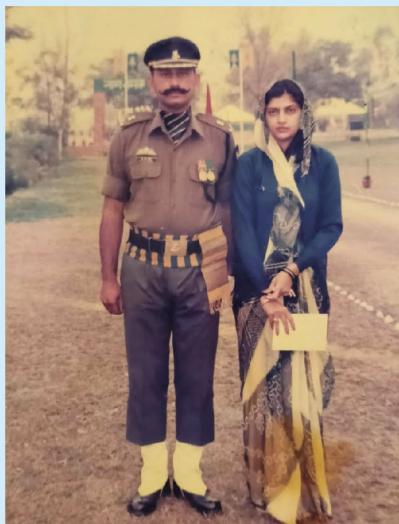
1970



Recent Pic

Spouse : Yogeshwari
Address : Kapi Dhwaj Gunawati
House 34-35 J B Colony
Thaltara Path Sirsi Road
Khatipura Jaipur 302012
Phone : 9413353409
E-mail : yogeshwarikumari@gmail.com

Kapinder Singh Rathore was from village Gunawati, district Nagour. His father too, was an Army officer and after he retired as Colonel he came and settled in Jaipur for the sake of his children's education. Kapinder was admitted in St. Xavier's. He represented the School at Republic Day Parade in New Delhi. After schooling, Kapinder Singh joined Rajasthan College for his B.A. Honours in History. During college education, he joined Senior Wing NCC and did C-Certification. He got selected in IMA from the NCC quota in July 1974 and passed out in December 1975. He was commissioned in one of the highest decorated, esteemed and first PVC 4 Kumaon Regiment. His unit had the honour and privilege to be the first Regiment to get posted to Siachin Glacier to deter the Pakistan occupation in 1982. Kapinder serviced at all relevant posting from New Delhi to Jammu and Kashmir. He was a bright officer and did well in his career but he developed some cardiac disorder due to which he took premature retirement - the 'Golden Handshake' in the year 1998 and joined Rajasthan Home Guards as Deputy Commandant, posted at Jaipur. He was part of the Disaster Management Committee. He was often invited as a Guest Lecturer at the Jhalana Officer's Training Institute. After retirement from Home Guards, Kapinder joined DCM Shriram and then SRF as their Security and Administrative Head between 2003-2008. After this short stint in the corporate world, Kapinder was actively involved with tourist agencies running Bed & Breakfast and Home Dinners where visiting foreign tourist were sent to Indian homes for better appreciation of Indian culture because Kapinder himself enjoyed learning more about different countries & their culture.



With Yogeshwari



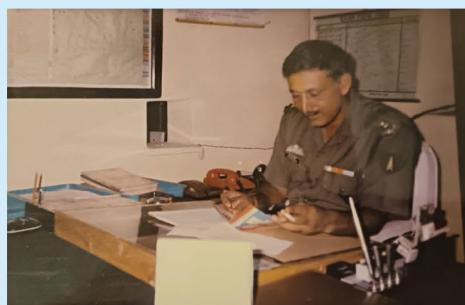
With Son & Daughter



In Western Sector



Family Portrait



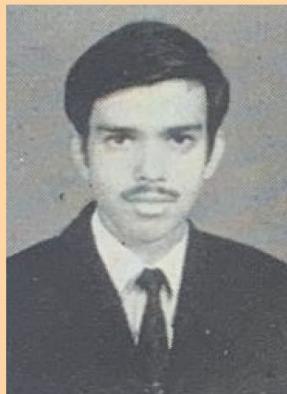
2nd In Command of 4 Kumaon

Kapinder married Yogeshwari Bhati of Sathin on 15th Feb 1982. They have a son Hanuveer Singh who is Director of Sales at ITC Gardenia Bengaluru and daughter Mahima who is pursuing Jewelry designing. Kapinder was an avid reader & used to write poems and short stories. He loved all form of music and was also fond of angling. Kapinder passed away unexpectedly in 2009.



Mahavir Bishnoi

A.I.H.S.

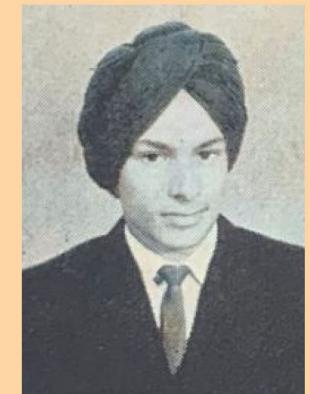


Tribute
by Dharampal Singh

Mahavir was an amiable & likeable soul popular among his classmates & hostellers. Being a doctor in the making he understood human psychology early in school. I remember, our hostel daily program used to be put up on a Notice Board just outside the entrance to the Dining Hall. One day we found him standing looking intently at the Notice Board. Curious, we all crowded around trying to see what was of such interest. Mahavir looked bemused, smiled & walked away leaving us all bewildered. Later, on being pestered, he revealed that he was just tracking us & that there was nothing new on the Notice Board. Mahavir joined the AFMC & had an illustrious career in the Army. A patriot who never flinched from serving anywhere the Army Authorities posted him. I think COVID hit him hard & led to serious health issues. Mahavir succumbed to post COVID complications a few months earlier. A brave heart, we will always remember as someone who was a true patriot. Our sincere sympathies with his family. May his soul rest in peace.

Randhir S Dhindsa

I.S.C.



Tribute
by Dharampal Singh

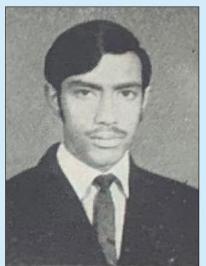
Randhir was perhaps the epitome of a human who breathed life. He was a free-wheeling young man with no holds barred lifestyle. While Sikhism bars smoking, Randhir lived to smoke. He was also the source of the Whisky which we hid in our hostel lockers & a small group (Randhir, Tony, Hari Singh & Michael Jain) swigged it at the Upper Field just minutes after the Saturday night movie & before dinner. Never got caught. Randhir continued his lifestyle & retreated to his ancestral home in Sriganganagar. But the smoking & drinking damaged his body & he passed away a couple of years back. Lovable guy. No one ever betrayed him.



1954 - 2021

Karni Singh Rathore A.I.H.S.

Tribute by Dharampal Singh



1970



Recent Pic

Date of Birth	:	31st Dec. 1953
Spouse	:	Asha Rathore
Address	:	291, AWHO Colony, Ambabari, Jaipur 302023
Phone	:	9829597616
E-mail	:	ashaji640@gmail.com

Karni was a quiet & well mannered student & hosteller popular among his friends. He was a sportsman of eminence & was in both the Football & Hockey School Teams . He was so popular that the students elected him President of the Students' Union. After school he was selected for OTA & graduated with honours. He was commissioned in 17 Rajputana Rifles. He served with courage & distinction in the insurgency affected North East. While posted as a young Captain at the Singjamei Army Post in the heart of Imphal City, he undertook several operations against the anti-national elements. His counter insurgency operation to flush out a group of Meitei Peoples' Liberation Army (PLA) deserves special mention. Karni led upfront against the heavily armed & trained PLA boys who fired back in defiance from a hut. He set the hut on fire and as the insurgents started running out in total panic, the Army Jawans shot them one by one. Karni Singh noticed that one insurgent was trying to escape. Risking his own life he grabbed a rifle and shot dead the fleeing insurgent. It was only after the Operation was over & the dead insurgents identified, it was realised that the insurgent Karni Singh had shot dead was none other than the dreaded Lhasa trained Kunjbehari Singh of the PLA. For that brave & personal courageous action by Karni Singh was awarded the Kirti Chakra.

Karni had empathy for the people of Manipur & recognizing that the health infrastructure was very poor he organised two truckloads of medicines through personal initiative from his home State, Rajasthan which were distributed during Health Camps he organized under the Army's Civic Action Programme. Kudos to his love for his country men. Unfortunately, Karni Singh was infected with cancer & despite the best treatment by the Army Doctors, he passed away. He is remembered fondly not just by his family but friends who were closely associated with him. May his soul rest in peace. We as Indians are proud of him. He will be in our memory forever.



Karni and Asha



With the President Dr. Abdul Kalam



Kirti Chakra



Daughter Rajshree & her family



Karni with Rajmata



1954 - 2022

Pradeep Saraf A.I.H.S.

Tribute by Pavan Shorey



1970



2022

Date of Birth	:	11th April 1955
Spouse	:	Aneeta Saraf
Address	:	R 6 Tilak Marg C-Scheme, Jaipur
Phone	:	9414043099
E-mail	:	pranitsaraf@hotmail.com

Pradeep - affectionately called Lallu - was a rotund, small boy, sitting on the front bench of the class of eight. He suddenly gained height in the tenth standard and with it came oodles of self-confidence. He had shed his kilos, his shy nature and was now in the forefront of any discussion in class. In college he regaled us with jokes, the non vegetarian ones at that. He wore a liberal outlook up his sleeves and was a staunch supporter of Indira Gandhi and the Congress party. He took over the trucking business of the family and the rough hewn life of the truck drivers rubbed onto him. His jokes became more ribald and he became a perfect raconteur. He took us once to his native place Mukundgarh. The palatial house was locked up, all antique furniture covered in white drape and the dust covered Chinese porcelain stood out. It was a memorable road trip. When in school and later in college, me and Pradeep were regulars at the Sunday morning show of English movies. We saw many classics like: Lawrence of Arabia, Dr Zhivago , Ryan's daughter; all classics of David lean. We had our obligatory ice cream cone after each show. He was one of the earliest amongst us to get married. Fast forward to the Covid epidemic in the second wave: He contracted Covid and was admitted to a hospital, came out but was readmitted with lung complications. In a few days, his condition deteriorated, he developed septicemia. He breathed his last on 7 November, 2020. It was a rude shock to lose a close friend. He was an outgoing, effervescent personality always ready to help others. I was shell shocked for months before I reconciled to this personal loss. We miss you, Lallu!



Anita and Pradeep



Holidaying Together



Pradeep with family members



Good times together



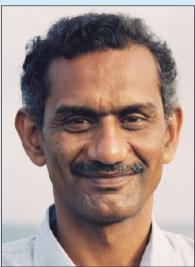
1954 - 2020

Raman Gupta I.S.C.

Tribute by Nihal Mathur



1970



Recent Pic

Date of Birth	:	23rd July 1954
Spouse	:	Alka Gupta
Address	:	Shanti Falodhyan, Sariska Road, Alwar (Raj.)
Phone	:	+91 93141 42464 (Alka)
Email	:	dhruvsatya@gmail.com

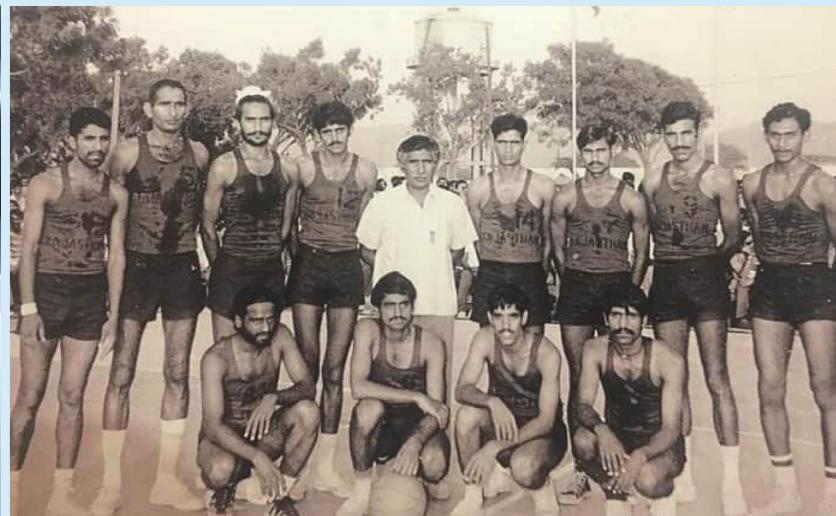
It has been three years now and still my heart grieves for my childhood chum and brother – Raman Gupta. He came from an illustrious family in Alwar and as soon as he was old enough to live on his own, he was sent to Jaipur to study in our School. I followed him to the Xavier's soon after. Raman was affectionately called 'Bhalu' for his curly hair by almost all who knew him. Although good in studies, Raman excelled in Sports especially playing Basketball. After school, Raman made it to the Indian Basketball team and represented the country in Asian Games for 7 consecutive years. For his excellence he was offered many jobs by corporations like the Tatas but Raman chose to come back home and join the family automobile business in Alwar. He got married to Alka in 1984 but immersed himself in doing pioneering work selling tractors in the agricultural hinterlands around Alwar where he found affection amongst the simple farmers because of his humble and friendly nature. Later, he headed the family's Hyundai car dealership which he steered to the being the best in the country. After his elder son Dhruvsatya joined him, Raman began to find time for his other interests. He not only played basketball but landed up at the courts to teach college youngsters. He took active interest in his Farm and was passionate about 'amla' (gooseberry). He produced amla candy, oil and juice and distributed free to anyone who wanted. He got organic certification for his farm and took keen interest in cow milk, ghee and gobar fertilizer. Raman was a devotee of Art of Living & took a keen interest in its activities. People remember him for his meaningful contribution to promote Art of Living in Alwar. Meanwhile his younger son, Mrityasatya left for the U.K. to study at the London Business School. Raman was a fitness freak and would run up a 7 floor staircase without pausing. He walked 7-8 kms every morning. All was well when suddenly one morning he complained of uneasiness, lay down and closed his eyes, forever. Raman will always remain in my memory as a brother who was saint-like.



Raman with Alka



Raman in his Office



National Basketball Team



Sons Mitrasatya & Dhruvsatya



DIAMOND JUBILEE

Here We Come!

Year 2030

The Year 2030 will be momentous milestone in our lives.

Most of us would be in the 80s!

It would indeed be an extraordinary meeting of friends
60 years after leaving school.

Yes, it would be an occasion for a grand celebration –
a testament to our enduring friendship.

We sincerely hope that our numbers would not dwindle further
for that memorable meeting.

We better start taking care of our health now
so that we can raise a toast to all of us.

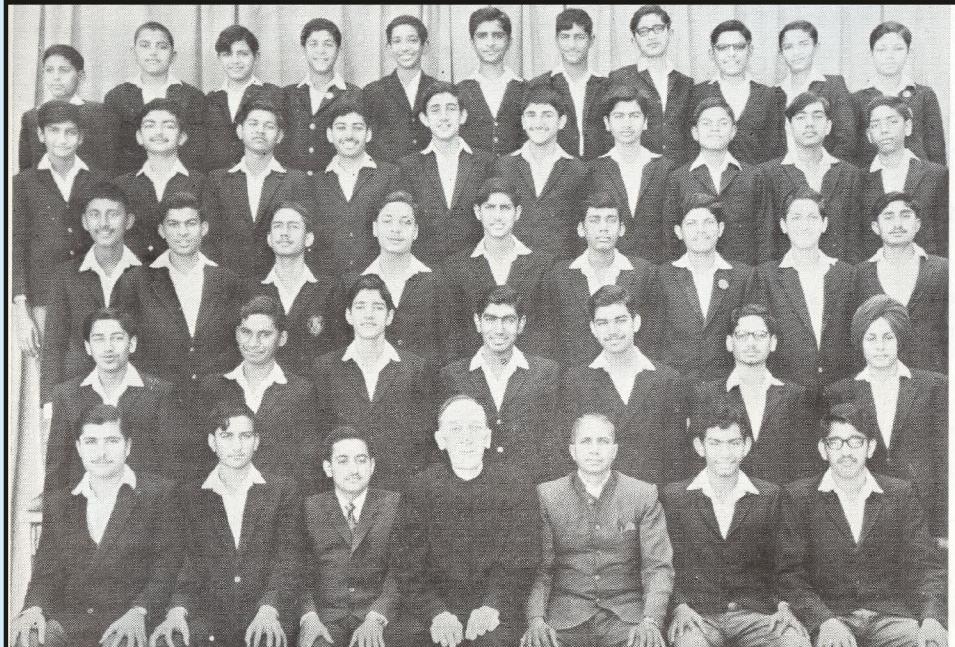
It will be a time to reflect on our lives,
share our experiences and achievements and most importantly,
inspire our children and children's children, to excel in life.

So look out 2030, Here We Come!





LAST BLUE & GOLD PICTURE



STANDARD X A

(Inferior quality cannot be found here.)

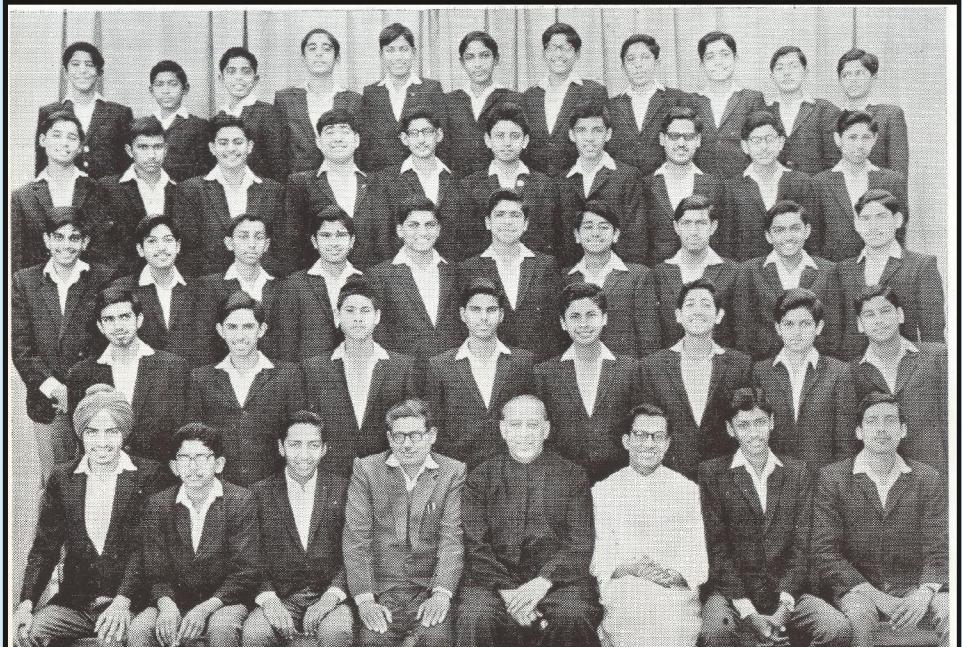
Row 5 : Deepak Maheshwari, Purshottam Vyas, Michael Jain, Deepak Korla, Akhil Jugran, Subhash Pareek, T. M. Subramaniam, Surendra Daswani, Sumit Das, Anil Vashist, Anuj Rajvanshi

Row 4 : Ajay Jain, Ajay Kothari, Ram Singh Ras, Rajive Kanwar, Raphael Verghese, Rakesh Vig, Anil Sehgal, Raman Sarda, Manoj Mathur, C. R. Seetharam

Row 3 : Kapinder Singh, Anil K. Ram, Dharmpal, Krishan Gelda, Sudhanidhi Kasliwal, Kamal Das, Zakir Hasan, Deepak Chhibba, Hari Singh

Row 2 : Nirmal Kumbhat, Ashok Sharma, Anil Puri, Dalpat Singh, Tarun Jhunjhnuwala, Naresh Menghani, Randhir Singh Dhindsa

Row 1 : Sunil Hoon, Ajit Singh, Mr. Anand Singh Junia, Fr. J. Zubricky, Mr. N. L. Jain, Raman Gupta, Anil Satija



STANDARD X B

(We don't think we're great. No truly great men thought themselves so.)

Row 5 : Ravi Sudarshan, Pradeep Saraf, Basant Khetan, Ashok Varandhani, Rajendra Surekha, Rajesh Gupta, Ashok Pabuwal, Rajive Gupta, Manohar Fatehchand, Sarvatma Dayal, Anant Kasliwal

Row 4 : Ashok Shah, Sushil Saboo, Dilip Tandon, Nihal Mathur, Rajender Singh, Sudhanshu Pandey, Pavan Shorey, Pradeep Chopra, Piyush Mehrotra, Fateh Singh

Row 3 : Arun Hooja, Anil Kumar, Dhananjay Chakravarti, Shailesh Shrivastava, Vinay Dharwadker, Chander Belani, Ashok Gupta, Karni Singh, Pradeep Bhargava, Subhadra Bakliwal

Row 2 : Mahavir Singh Bishnoi, Umesh Vaswani, Virenderpal Singh, Sri Kant Bulakh, Deepak Sehgal, Arun Kaul, Rajiv Loival, Anil Kasliwal

Row 1 : Balbir Singh, Yashwant Chowdhary, Rajkumar Jain, Mr. R. L. Sharma, Fr. R. Extross, Fr. T. T. Matthew, Sunil Agarwal, Naresh Joshi