

Memories of Azusa Highschool

Name: Till Hühns, 14167 Berlin , Mühlenstrasse 11
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Favorite song: At this time I loved Elvis Presley and I still like his songs.
My favorite songs were: Heartbreak Hotel and Love me tender
From German singer: Peter Kraus, Susi-Baby, also a Rock´n Roll song.

Favorite subject: I loved auto shop, Mr. La Mere, because I was very interested in cars.
Subjects like this were not available in German schools.

Favorite teacher: Mr. Kerr

Favorite hangout: I really do not know, what this word means. My dictionary gives different meanings, from clothes to apartments. So no answer.

Favorite food: American ice cream, sandwich with peanut-butter and jam.

Favorite school activities: Just to be there in a foreign country in a different school system with different subject and a lot of new friends. I enjoyed everything except sports. I joined the B-Team in high jumping to avoid the regular sport drill. I was never good in sports.

Favorite summer activity: I don't think that this is what you wanted to hear. Besides a visit to Disneyland it was sitting on an orange tree in the orange grove, picking oranges, and eating them. (Sometimes too many!!). Learning how to drive a car (It was illegal for me as an exchange student).

Favorite outfit: white pants and moccasins, definitely no suits and ties.

First car: Back in Germany with the age of 18. It was a very small car, the BMW-Isetta. A car for two persons only, a door opening to the front with only 13 horsepower. I loved this car. The next one was an Austrian car, called Steyr Puch. It had 4 seats and 23 horsepower. The ideal car for mountain roads.

First date, first kiss: Too long ago, it must have been at an age of about 13 or 14.

Christmas dance date, Senior prom date: At the time, I was in the USA, I had a German girl friend. So I went to the dance activities, which I loved very much, always with different girls. I remember one girl, called Foxy due to her beautiful red hair.

Biggest crush (crushing event): To come home to Germany and see my girlfriend with another boyfriend. Later on, I understood, that this was very lucky for me. It was just not the right girl.

Biggest distraction: Here again I find many translations in my dictionary. But I think I know what is meant by this word.

One of my biggest problems in Azusa High was, that everybody, teacher, fellow students, wanted me to change my haircut. They wanted me to have a crew-cut or a flat-top, the normal haircut at this time. And I liked my hair the way it was.

Fondest memories: A family from West Covina took me to San Francisco. They had very little money and so they drove the whole day and night by car along the coast to Frisco and, if I remember correctly, the over next day and night back again. It was their vacation. There were two very important aspect connected with this drive: The warm and very special way, this family treated me and the wonderful atmosphere of San Francisco. I will always keep this in a special corner of my heart. San Francisco is still my favorite town. Many years later, I had a chance to visit it again. It had still the special charm from 1961.

Funniest moment: Except for the days directly before Xmas (I missed my home), I felt very happy all the time and I liked to laugh. Perhaps the most funny situation was, when one of the students said something not so nice to me and I answered with the only real bad words I learned ahead of time: You bloody son of a bloody bitch. Everybody started laughing, because no one expected such an answer from me.

Most embarrassing moment: Just before Xmas vacation there was a big event for all the students and teachers. My job was it, to hold a little speech in front of all about Xmas in Germany. My English teacher, Mr. Brown, asked me not to use a written text word by word, but to use little cards with only topics on it. (An advise, I followed all the years after very successful as teacher on the University) Suddenly everybody got uneasy and started talking lowly. Then I registered, that I changed the language into German. Well I started again in English and during the next couple of days we had many possibilities to laugh about this.

Biggest accomplishment (personal): There are two areas. I am very happy, to have a good wife and two children, who found their personal, successful way in life. In my job it is perhaps the most great feeling to have some students, who come back after years of work and developed to good contented members of the society.

Best summer vacation: There are many, I liked very much. When the children were small, we loved to live in a rented house close to the beach, to walk through the sand and swim. Later on I loved sailing in the Mediterranean Sea, between the Greek Islands. The best vacation is always the one you have now.

O.K. that it. I hope my English is not too bad, and my memories are correct, especially the names of teachers.

Till Hühns