

I founded the "WSMR Kids Reunion's" starting research in January of 1990 because I have very fond memories of my life on "The Base". Because of my research and after talking to literally thousands of people, "The List" has approximately 2500 names and 1400 addresses. I have talked to other military-brat organizations, book writers, politicians, military personnel, civilians, news papers, radio and many others about life at White Sands.

Does anyone remember the cost of a loaf of bread 10¢, gasoline 15¢ or the 25¢ haircut? You could get in to see a movie and pay for the popcorn with a quarter. Remember the trips, Sox Hops in El Paso, Carlsbad Caverns, White Sands National Monument, The Grove, Cox's ranch, The Organ Mountains. Remember Scouting, Vacation Bible school, Teen Club, and Hoover's Paddle? How about the snakes; horny toads, rabbits, tarantulas and lizards? Remember the scooters, and the cars. You may remember a gold Cushman Eagle I sold to Ted P., he painted it flat black. I never forgave him. Remember the different jobs you had starting out in life. I personally mowed lawns, set pins in the bowling alley; and at one time I had the entire base plus Organ and a small neighborhood outside of Las Cruces on my paper route. Guys, did you sack groceries at the Commissary for 10¢ a bag.

Remember the house(s) where you lived. We lived in three different homes. Built two yards, had one address change while we were living there. Of course there was the trailer park, Navy quarters, and the Officers quarters. There were about 40 streets for residences and it did not take long to learn them like the back of your hand.

Remember the clear skies, wonderful temperatures, and the dust storms? Remember holding on to a street sign to keep from being blown away.

Remember the Teen Club hay rides, pool parties and dances. Some people could really cut-a-rug, others just stood in one placed and rocked back-and-forth.

I have had an opportunity to see the Trinity Site, the wild horses, the different mountain ranges and other wilds. Very few people in this country will ever have the opportunity to go on Range Road Seven.

I lived on the base for seven years. The camaraderie of the kids was unique. When a conversation is brought up about, why WSMR, I just tell them that this was a place that when you left it, you were in the middle of nowhere. That is what makes WSPG/WSMR different than other bases.

I am so proud to have touched so many lives in a positive way and played a part in bringing together so many friends. Because of "The LIST", those that have not been to a reunion were still able to communicate. The committee; not enough could be said. They have become a family, year round; while working for almost twelve out of fourteen years to prepare for the best reunions I have ever attended.

Bill Adler
Founder