

TRIBUTE TO STEVE FOX

Ernie Chamberlin

For more years than I care to remember 1933 Class Reunions were the province of classmate Steve Fox. Most of us attended when the spirit moved us or we found it convenient. Whenever we showed up we expected to find a headquarters, properly staffed, and usually in a tent with plenty of kegs of beer for our indulgence. We also looked forward to a night's sleep in a dorm room, gourmet meals such as our Friday night class dinners, and a Parade where we could "strut our stuff" before the younger classes in the wake of a lively band and ELSIE our cow.

We took for granted that these things just happened. We grouched a bit about the reunion fee, complained that the music kept us awake too late, the beds (cots) were uncomfortable, and our classmates looked awfully old. But generally we left quite happy, albeit a bit hung over as we tried to consume our money's worth of BUD.

Steve was always there, night and day, handling the problems as they arose. I don't ever recall a Reunion Committee.

Then one day we got the sad news. Steve would no longer be around to run our Reunions, write our class notes as Class Secretary and keep track of our members. Since that sad day it has taken more than a dozen of us to fill Steve's shoes.

With the 70's came co-education to Princeton. It soon spread to Reunions as well. As we aged, more and more

of us wanted our wives with us. Then as attrition set in, and wives became widows, they continued their husband's interest in the Class and came to Reunions. Now the classes and the University have officially recognized them under the title of "ASSOCIATES". At our 64th Reunion last year our Associates (wives and widows) outnumbered classmates. To run a Reunion today without them is unthinkable.



What most of us did a good bit of at Reunion—relaxing with a drink at the Nassau Club. Chairman Ernie with Bud Wilson's daughter, Gail Cuthbertson.

Our class can be proud, too, of what Steve has done over the years for his University. Through his many years as Reunion Chairman he became the 'DEAN' among Reunion Chairmen of the other classes. He fathered the 'satellite system' of combining five classes in joint reunions.

As for us, he nursed us through our good-natured bickering over whether our Reunion jackets

would be 'striped' so we could spot a classmate halfway across the campus or a more sedate one suitable for the dinner dance at the country club. The stripes proved so popular that when 1958 asked to use them in accordance with University policy of release after 25 years Steve agreed. As a result 1958 has been more than generous in sharing their wonderful music with us over the years. Now the next generation class, 1983, wants to regard 1958 as 'parents' and 1933 as 'grandparents' and plan joint activities.

I am sure that there is still no University that 'reunes' as does Princeton. It's nice to know that one of ours, Steve Fox, played such a vital part in continuing the tradition.