

Keith's Corner/McGill News

October 23, 2020

Kendall Horton

Kendall was an old friend dating back to the 1930s when we both lived in "Townsite" above the tracks in McGill. I lived in the bottom house, #26, on the north side of E row. Kendall and his two brothers, Gordon and Phillip lived in the single house below 1st street on E row. We spent many hours playing sandlot baseball on the small vacant lot in front of their house. We did a lot of hiking up to the lead mine to have lunch and once to the peak. At night our favorite game was kick the can. During the winter, when we used to get snow, KCC, blocked off E row for sleigh riding and brought us loads of scrap lumber to have a bonfire at the top of E row.

Later, in the middle 1940s many townsite families moved down into middle town. This move meant that we all had a larger group of McGill heathens to pal around with. As we progressed into high school our circle of friends grew even bigger. Back in those days, we all tended to hang around others in our age group, so I didn't see much of Ken, until we were both in our late 60s living in Duck Creek. There were plenty of parties and BBQs going on. Ken always brought his guitar. He was a good singer and liked Country Western, especially the older songs, like, "Crystal Chandeliers", "Gas Up The Pickup" etc. I have a few cherished videos of those times. Ken livened up those shindigs.

One fine summer day, Pinky and Ken stopped by my place to visit and have a few toddies. Then Doc Bennett showed up. Ken called Joe and Bonnie Mesic and soon, with a goodly amount of beer, Early Times and Beefeaters, the guitars and banjo session was under way. Since I didn't have the talent to play along with them, I did manage to get some memorable videos. It was a fun night.

Ken had a great sense of humor so one April 1st when I was living at lower Berry Creek I called him. He was living at the Duck Creek dam. I told him that a small

herd of Elk had run past the house and a young bull had tried to jump over a railing on the patio and apparently broke a leg. He quickly said to shoot it and he would rush right over and help me hang it in the barn and get it cut up and wrapped for out freezers. I said that I couldn't do that. He said he would. I told him I couldn't let him do it either. He asked why and I had to tell him several times, that it was April 1st. It finally sunk in and he lost his sense of humor and almost burned up the telephone lines and then he started laughing. Later that morning he pulled the same thing on Pinky. Ken was a great friend and is missed a lot by me and many others.

McGill News

Last week I was standing in front of the drug store when a small white car went sailing thru town at a speed of well over 100mph. Later it was reported that the cops had spotted the car at Sagebrush gas station. They boxed him in and arrested the critter. He was running drugs. A few days later another white car did the same, only this time a NHP was right behind him as they shot thru McGill. I guess this is what will be happening a lot now.

The weather is still perfect, but we need rain badly. The mtns are dry and very flammable.

Old Photos

Last week I had a photo enlargement, showing the old LDS church steeple. Several people asked for the whole picture, so here it is.



The WP Champions in 1927. In the back row, the fourth player from the left, without helmet and with arms crossed, is Suzie Symes. The first one on the left in the front row is John Kinnear Jr.. I am trying to get the names of the rest of them. Anyone know??

The Catholic Church is behind them with the bell tower.

The new mill, (1923), is there. The old trestle is gone. These youngsters saw plenty of changes to McGill.