



Teri Hill

TERI HILL CLARK. Teri says that her name is so short (Teri Hill) that she started using asterisks over the "i's" in the 5th grade when autograph books were brought to school. She said her name was so short and boring that she just had to jazz it up! She married Jerry W. Clark (BHS'67)—there were two Jerry Clarks. Hers is the one with glasses! They met at the BHS lunch tables where she and Teri McComas would eat every day. She writes: *One day Rick Nebeker (wanting to flirt with Teri M. and too shy to flirt alone so he drug Jerry with him) and Jerry starting catching/killing flies and throwing them on us. We would "scream" so they would keep doing it. Eventually they became brave and sat with us! Teri M. and I were sophomores and Rick and Jerry were juniors. The rest is history! We got married August 15, 1970.* Teri majored in Early Childhood Development, hoping to be the best mom possible, and managed her career around their two sons, Wade (1975) and Nicholas (1978). From forming a parent co-op preschool, to substitute teaching, to working within the entire spectrum of special education, Teri remained in education ... until their youngest son, Nicholas – who had graduated from college, married, and was successfully self-employed – died from methamphetamine use in 2005. It became too difficult for her to be around a memory-invoking environment so she moved to the non-profit prevention world. Their eldest son, Wade, graduated with two degrees, one in psychology and one in criminal justice. He chose law enforcement as his career and is currently a Sgt. with the Reno Police Department serving as the Community Action Officer after having been a Detective on the Gang Unit.

Wade is a dedicated step-father and has a three year old daughter who is adorable and feisty! Teri writes: *Any of you who are county western music fans will have heard of "Terri Clark." As you can see, my life is a bit of a Johnny Cash song. I tell people I'm just like "Terri Clark" except for 20 years, 20 pounds, and she can carry a tune!* Sadly Teri had to stop working this last October to become a full time caretaker to Jerry. He has been medically challenged for the last four and half years with diabetes, dementia, and cancer and is currently on Hospice. Teri feels very fortunate to have accomplished so many goals and dreams, but believes her greatest accomplishment was finding a way to turn our greatest tragedy ... the stigmatized death of their son due to drug use ... into something that has helped many people. She has a presentation that she has given to community leaders, school personnel from Board Members to Bus Drivers, pastors, community college students, parents, and health classes ... over a couple thousand people. She has hundreds of letters from students stating a positive impact. She is committed to present to anyone who will listen from an audience of one to an audience of 101 and will go virtually anywhere FREE. Here are her BHS memories: *I have a lot of random memories ... like trying to do a serious scene in drama with Anson Heimlick and how impossible that was to do ... spending HOURS with a group of us at my house practicing the try out routine for Drill Team to a Mitch Miller Marching Band record ... to Bob's after football games ... to getting to get food during the 3rd quarter of a football game ... Eddy Rubacalva playing In-A-Godda-Da-Vida over and over and over at a party ... end of the year pool parties at my house trying to meld drama kids and football jocks together ... Jerry, Mike Gould and JD Clark trying to sneak into Houdini's Castle and leaving George Frigerio to babysit me in the car ... and a whole lot of other after school adventures ☺ But my overall sense of Burbank High was that there were no "Mean Girls" and no horrible bullying. I remember there were "cliques," but my memory is it was more interest groups and I felt like I could hang out in most any of them ... except maybe you smart kids ☺ I enjoyed high school.*

