

The Lone Ranger – Class of 75 Version February 2025 Edition

Our 50th Reunion Week is less than 4 months away! June 12 – 15, 2025.

“I haven’t made my mind up if I’m coming.” That was a personal message I received from one of our classmates. I’ve known this classmate since the time my folks moved us back to Tulsa in 1968. Here was my response, “I moved back to Tulsa three years ago, and reconnecting with our classmates and old teammates has been one of the most rewarding times of my life. Come home one last time! It will be the last time we will see many of our classmates and teammates.”

I’ve spent the last two and a half years trying to talk as many of our classmates into attending our 50th as possible. Here are **The Five Most Common Excuses People Give For Not Wanting to Attend Reunion Week** and my response.

“I wasn’t popular in high school.” That might have been true in 1975, but in 2025, we have redefined popular. The popular kids are the kids who show up, help out, reach out, and live out what it means to be a Ranger For Life. If you come to one of our meet-ups or spend time in the Facebook room you will see this playing out. Don’t let your popularity or unpopularity keep you from attending!

“Oklahoma is filled with crazy people.” I’m treading on thin ice here as I’m passionate that we will not allow politics into our 50th. But I have to say that I have talked to many who are turned off by how Oklahoma voted. I can’t change that, nor can you. But we can show America that it is possible to disagree agreeably. Our class is exactly like America. You will find classmates of all persuasions.

“I can’t afford it.” Start saving money, and you can! This is harder for out-of-state classmates as travel is a big expense, and I can’t help you there. But, because of the generosity of our classmates, our Friday and Saturday night events are FREE! Whatever you spend to get here and stay here will be worth the expense. You are investing in your future!

“I don’t want to attend another Prom.” I hear this a lot when it comes to Saturday night at Philbrook. We are NOT holding another prom, and I’m NOT wearing a tux! I’m sure some will doll up. I’m probably going to be in jeans and maybe a Tommy Bahama shirt if I want to go fancy. It’s Oklahoma, and you will find all kinds of attire. You will fit in.

“Not everyone had a great high school experience.” No one can change what happened in the past. I hope and pray that our 50th might be used as a healing time for those who did not have a great high school experience. Our desire for our 50th reunion is for it to be a reunion of all our classmates from Kindergarten through our graduation at Hale.

Every classmate leaves an event feeling honored, loved, and connected. That’s our goal for not only our 50th reunion but for the rest of our time. So, come home one last time. I promise you it will be worth it. This is not a vain promise. We started celebrating two and a half years ago, with various meet ups. Frankly, it’s been the unpopular kids back in the day, who are some of our most active “popular” classmates now.

“I’ve never been as loved and supported as I am now.” A classmate, who most would not know, made that comment recently when Rangers For Life was mentioned. When I heard that, my heart

warmed. An unpopular classmate has now found a way to be popular. That's the spirit of Rangers For Life! That's worth coming back home one last time for!

The Reunion Week Hotel will be the Doubletree South at 61st & Yale - Here are the room rates we have negotiated: **\$129 for usually \$200 and \$15 per night for parking.** Nathan Hale 50th Reunion link:

https://www.hilton.com/en/attend-my-event/tulsydt-908-1d665246-5949-40bf-bd82-4ecd50e3a927/?fbclid=IwY2xjawIbDWWleHRuA2FlbQIxMAABHbaUGVm9aPRiHfucdltvzipqSo1tltmZoN3JJVJvcDKX26tF5UmBX-LmdA_aem_P3DCyCbIpl15FKM787NEfUw

Instructions: Click "Book a Room." If guests are going to stay the full 3 nights, they can just click on "Quick Book" for the 2 queen beds or the king bed. If guests only want to stay 1 or 2 nights, they can click on the calendar at the top and move the dates where they want, and then choose the room type. A credit Card is required to hold the reservation, but it won't be charged until arrival. If anyone has any problems or any confusion, they are always welcome to call the hotel directly and speak with Bekah Rowland | Events Manager, at 918-497-2181.

Keep up to date by following information at these two key places...

Our official class website at <https://hale75alumni.org/index.html>

Our official Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/77391774595> - This is a private page so if you want access email me at markbrooks82176@gmail.com and I will make sure we let you in!

Don't let any excuse come between you and our 50th Reunion! None of us look like we did 50 years ago. We all weigh more, have less hair, walk slower, etc. You will find classmates who look like you because they are just like you! I promise you, you will not feel alone. I look forward to seeing you in four months in America's most underrated city, Tulsa!

Ranger For Life!

Mark Brooks - Chairman of the Class of 75

PS. Remember that you can now make contributions directly at <https://giv.li/hpxic5>. We do pay a transaction fee of around \$1.03 for a \$25 gift. To cover the fee, multiply by that number.