

ANNIE'S MAILBOX

ADVICE TO YOU

Dear Annie:

I am 17, a senior in high school and have never had a girlfriend. It seems like no matter what I do, I never can find a girl to go out with. Any girl I've managed to date will only go out with me once, and after that, we are just friends.

I freeze up on dates and have no clue why. I've known one girl since I was 3, but for some reason couldn't find a single thing to say to her when we were out. Mind you, I can talk to a girl all day at school, but alone with her, my mind goes blank and she loses interest.

I am often told that I am good-looking and kind, but I always manage to mess things up. How can I overcome this?

— **Never Kissed a Girl**

Dear Never Kissed:

Your shyness may be severe enough to qualify as a social anxiety disorder. Still, sometimes all it takes is practice. Because you can carry on a conversation at school, some of these girls may mistake your shyness for boredom or disdain. Prepare a couple of things to say. Ask what she thinks about one of your classes. Tell her she looks nice. Smile. Consider going out in a group. Also, you'd

be surprised to learn that some women think shy guys are adorable, and if you confess that you are nervous, they will do their best to put you at ease.

■

Dear Annie:

Recently, some friends lost a family member. In the obituary, it states that in lieu of flowers, a donation can be made to a selected charity. We honored that wish and made a donation.

Is it acceptable to let our

friends know of the donation, either verbally or in a sympathy card? We have made such donations in the past and aren't sure whether the family was notified by the organization. We aren't looking for gratitude. We simply want the family to know we are thinking of them. What is proper?

— **Unsure**

Dear Unsure:

The organization will notify the family of your donation (without stating the amount). The family should then send some type of acknowledgement. If you want to be sure your donation was received, it is best to call the organization.

■

Dear Annie:

I have a suggestion for "Life's a Beach," who was tired of entertaining her husband's free-loading relatives, and he refused to tell them not to come.

We recently called friends who live out of state and asked whether it would be OK to visit them for the day. We offered to take them out for lunch, but they refused. After a simple and delicious meal, the lady of the house simply announced, "We will clear the table, and then the kitchen is closed." My husband and I went sightseeing and then treated our friends to dinner.

"Life's a Beach" has to pull up her socks and stop letting them take advantage of her; even if she has to pack a sack lunch and

take Hubby and the kids to the park, leaving the refrigerator nearly bare for the uninvited "guests." If Hubby doesn't want to join her, let him figure out what to feed his relatives.

The old saying is true: "Guests and fish go bad after three days." "Life" might invest in a sign that says "Kitchen Closed Until Further Notice," although I'd just tape a note to the bathroom mirror.

— **A Grandmother who Loves Company but not Freeloaders in Nebraska**

Dear Grandmother:

It's unfortunate that some people can be clueless or inconsiderate when it comes to good manners.

THE ACES

BOBBY WOLFF

"Beware of desp'rate steps! The darkest day (Live till tomorrow) will have passed away."

— William Cowper

Today's deal is from a recent major invitational teams event. If you reach six spades and the defenders do not lead hearts, then you will surely play on clubs after drawing trumps and will probably regret you did not play the grand slam.

On a heart lead, things are more complex. After two top spades show the 4-1 split, you discard any thoughts of an endplay. You simply draw trumps, duck a heart, ruff the return, then cash a couple of top diamonds from hand.

The fall of the diamond 10 on your right gives you a real problem — you are now faced with a choice of approaches. Should you cash the diamond king, planning to fall back on the club finesse if diamonds do not break? This gives you about a two-thirds chance of success (basically 3-3 diamonds plus half the balance). Or should you rely on finessing the diamond nine? The chance that East has a doubleton honor compared to J-10-x is also about two to one. That is because there are twice as many doubleton-honor holdings as there are three-card holdings to the J-10. A third approach would be to cash the club A-K and then fall back on diamonds — the problem here being that a truly devious East might false-card in diamonds from J-10-8-7.

My gut reaction is that the first line is best. Opinions differ here, but since at least two world-class players disagreed (and went down), I'd better not say that too loud.

NORTH
♠ 10 8 4
♥ A J
♦ K 9 5 2
♣ K J 8 6

WEST
♠ 5
♥ K 10 7 5 3 2
♦ 8 6 3
♣ Q 10 4

EAST
♠ 9 6 3 2
♥ Q 8 4
♦ J 10 7
♣ 7 3 2

SOUTH
♠ A K Q J 7
♥ 9 6
♦ A Q 4
♣ A 9 5

Vulnerable: Both
Dealer: South

The bidding:

South	West	North	East
1 ♠	Pass	2 ♣	Pass
3 ♣	Pass	4 ♠	Pass
6 ♠	All pass		

Opening lead: Heart five

BID WITH THE ACES			
South holds:			
	♠ 10 8 4		
	♥ A J		
	♦ K 9 5 2		
	♣ K J 8 6		

South	West	North	East
1 ♦ ?	1 ♥	Dbl.	Pass

ANSWER: I can see a case, of sorts, being made for a minimum action in spades, no-trump or clubs. With better spades and worse hearts, one spade with the three-card suit might easily be right; a two-club call suggests, strongly, holding 5-4 in the minors, so is unattractive. That leaves a call of one no-trump, which at least limits the hand — never a bad thing.

TODAY IN HISTORY

Tuesday, March 9

Today is the 68th day of 2010. There are 297 days left in the year.

On March 9, 1862, during the Civil War, the ironclads USS Monitor and CSS Virginia (formerly USS Merrimac) clashed for five hours to a draw at Hampton Roads, Va.

In 1910, American composer Samuel Barber, best remembered for his Adagio for Strings, was born in West Chester, Pa.

In 1916, Mexican raiders led by Pancho Villa attacked Columbus, N.M., killing 18 Americans.

In 1932, Eamon de Valera was appointed head of government of the Irish Free State.

In 1945, during World War II, U.S. B-29 bombers launched incendiary bomb attacks against Japan, resulting in an estimated 100,000 deaths.

In 1954, CBS newsman Edward R. Murrow critically reviewed Wisconsin Sen. Joseph R. McCarthy's anti-Communism campaign on "See It Now."

In 1959, Mattel's Barbie doll, created by Ruth Handler, made its public debut at the American International Toy Fair in New York.

In 1964, the Supreme Court, in New York Times Co. v. Sullivan, ruled that public officials who charged they'd been libeled by news reports could not recover damages unless they proved actual malice on the part of the news organization.

In 1977, about a dozen armed Hanafi Muslims invaded three buildings in Washington, D.C., killing one person and taking more than 130 hostages. (The siege ended two days later.)

In 1990, Dr. Antonia Novello was sworn in as surgeon general, becoming the first woman and the first Hispanic to hold the job.

Ten years ago: John McCain suspended his presidential campaign, conceding the Republican nomination to George W. Bush. Bill Bradley ended his presidential bid, conceding the Democratic nomination to Vice President Al Gore.

Five years ago: Michael Jackson's young accuser took the witness stand, saying he once considered the pop star being tried for allegedly molesting him "the coolest guy in the world." (Jackson was later acquitted.) Dan Rather signed off for the last time as principal anchorman of "The CBS Evening News."

Having a birthday today

Former Sen. **James L. Buckley** (Conservative-N.Y.) is 87. Singer-actress **Keely Smith** is 78. Singer **Lloyd Price** is 77. Actress **Joyce Van Patten** is 76. Actor-comedian **Marty Ingels** is 74. Country singer **Mickey Gilley** is 74. Actress **Trish Van Devere** is 69. Singer **Mark Lindsay** (Paul Revere and the Raiders) is 68. Former ABC anchorman

Charles Gibson is 67. Rock musician **Robin Trower** is 65. Singer **Jeffrey Osborne** is 62. Country musician **Jimmie Fadden** (The Nitty Gritty Dirt Band) is 62. Actress **Jaime Lyn Bauer** is 61. Magazine editor **Michael Kinsley** is 59. TV newscaster **Faith Daniels** is 53. Actor-director **Lonny Price** is 51. Actress **Linda Fiorentino** is 50.

DEATH NOTICES

■ **Mary L. Clotworthy**, 64, Grand Junction, died March 4, 2010, at her home.

Services are scheduled for March 20 in Grand Junction.

■ **Brent Eric Ingram**, 39, Grand Junction, died Feb. 28, 2010.

Services will be at 7 p.m. Friday at Mesa Funeral Service.

Survivors include his wife, Nancy; two sons, Trent and Zane, both of Grand Junction; and his parents, Don and Joyce of Grand Junction.

Memorial contributions to the Brent Ingram Family Trust at any American National Bank.

■ **Carol Jean Pauley**, 71,

Grand Junction, died March 7, 2010, at Hospice Care Center. Services will be at 11 a.m. March 22 at Canyon View Vineyard Church.

Mrs. Pauley was office manager at Keenan Supply.

Survivors include her husband, Larry D.; one son, Gary D. of Fruita; one daughter, Lori M. Triplett of Grand Junction; one sister, Robbie L. Christensen of Fort Collins; four grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

Memorial contributions to Hospice & Palliative Care of Western Colorado, 3090B North 12th St., Grand Junction 81506.

■ **Albert Allen "Al" Reddick**,

71, Grand Junction, died March 8, 2010, at his home.

Services will be at 2 p.m. Wednesday at Orchard Mesa Cemetery.

Survivors include one son, Tim of Alachua, Fla.; one brother, Johnny of Watonga, Okla.; and one sister, Sandy Hale of Oklahoma City, Okla.

Memorial contributions to Hospice & Palliative Care of Western Colorado, 3090B North 12th St., Grand Junction 81506.

■ **Evelyn O. "Cookie" Welch**, 88, Grand Junction, died Feb. 24, 2010, in Las Vegas.

Services will be at 2 p.m. March 19 at Grand Junction Me-

morial Gardens Mausoleum.

Survivors include two sons, Chris Barbour and Dennis Barbour, both of Grand Junction; one stepson, Dale Welch of Grand Junction; one daughter, Linda Fine of Grand Junction; three stepdaughters, Dianne Geiss of Peoria, Ill., Denise Welch of Denver and Debra Welch of Vadnais, Minn.; one brother, Melvin Hoover of Grand Junction; 12 grandchildren; and 15 great-grandchildren.

Memorial contributions to Hospice & Palliative Care of Western Colorado, 3090B North 12th St., Grand Junction 81506.



Edward Stanley Keddy

Born July 17, 1934 – March 4, 2010

Born July 17, 1934 in Denver, Co, parents deceased. Grew up with his brother Dave Keddy (Vernal, UT), and sisters Mary Bradbury (Rifle, CO) and Dolores Cox (Paradise, CA). After High School, Ed pursued a degree in Mechanical Engineering at New Mexico State University. There he fell in love with Nancy Mawson. They married and for next 52 years embarked on a splendid journey. They started in Chicago, where Ed served as a Lieutenant in the Army, then moved to Los Alamos, NM where they raised five kids. In Los Alamos, he worked as a Mechanical Engineer for the Los Alamos Scientific Laboratory. After retirement, they moved to Las Cruces, NM and then finally Grand Junction, where they spent the last 15 years.

Ed enjoyed the great outdoors. He loved the Four Corners States, The Canyonlands, the high mountain passes, the deserts of Arizona and New Mexico. He was forever a student, read all the time. He and Nancy traveled as much as they could and never quite enough. He was looking forward to his next adventure even till the last. His was a life well spent.

He leaves behind his wife, Nancy (Grand Junction), Children, Valerie Keddy-Litchfield (Wendover, UT), Jeffrey and Wife Gina Keddy (Los Alamos, NM), Michele and Richard Stoneking (Pueblo, CO), Michael and Susan Keddy (Los Alamos, NM), Christopher Keddy (Las Cruces, NM); six grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Family and friends are invited to celebrate Ed's life this Tuesday, March 9, 2010 at the Fairmont Hall, 2511 N. 12th ST., the corner of 12Th and Patterson, Grand Junction, CO, starting at 11 A.M.

The family asks that in lieu of flowers that contributions be made in Ed's name to the Southern Poverty Law Center.



In Memoriam

Laura Schumacher

August 10, 1957 – March 9, 2009

They say there is a reason,
They say that time will heal,

But neither time nor reason,
Will change the way I feel,

For no-one knows the heartache,
That lies behind our smiles,



No-one knows how many times, We have broken down and cried,

We want to tell you something,
So there won't be any doubt,

You're so wonderful to think of,
But so hard to be without,
- Author unknown

Laura, I miss you and everything about you, your laugh, your smile, your advice, I never realized how much I depended on you until you were gone. You would be so proud of your son Aaron and all he has accomplished this year; I can't believe he is going to be 20 in four days. We miss you terribly; you will forever live on in our hearts.

Love Always,
Tammy

Kelly Wayne Atkinson

September 15, 1963 – March 5, 2010

Kelly Wayne Atkinson, age 46, husband of Lynette Herrera Atkinson passed away Friday, March 5, 2010. Kelly was born September 15, 1963 in Wheat Ridge, Colorado to Robert Dee Atkinson and Janice McPherson Atkinson. He married the love of his life Lynette Herrera on March 28, 1992.

Kelly loved camping, boating, water skiing, snow skiing, yard work and the Broncos. He loved watching old western movies. Kelly was a wonderful loving husband, father, son, brother, uncle and friend. He loved all animals, especially his 2 dogs Dutch and Dakota.

Kelly is survived by his loving wife, Lynette, and son, Andrew Kelly Atkinson. Also parents, Bob and Janice Matticks, brother, Brett (Deborah) Atkinson, sisters Anna and Bonnie Matticks, his special grandma, Wilma McPherson. Also mother and father in law, Arthur and Dennie Herrera, brothers in law: Aaron (Aja), Robert (Jenny), Daniel (Alicia), and Juven, sister in law Teena Herrera (Mark) Robbins and many nieces and nephews.

Kelly is preceded in death by his father Robert and his sister Lori Matticks.

Memorial services will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Thursday, March 11, 2010 at the Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses (232 E 1500 N) Vernal, Utah.



Raymore "Bud" Douglas Walcher

November 15, 1928 - March 6, 2010

Bud was born in Burlington, Kansas to Gladys Barge Walcher and Raymore Bland Walcher. Bud grew up in Boulder, Colorado and at a ranch his parents owned in Yampa, Colorado. He graduated from Yampa Union High School in 1946. After graduation, he enlisted in the United States Army, which included a tour in Japan, and was discharged in 1948 as a Staff Sergeant in the Military Police, 24th Infantry Division. After discharge, he came back to Colorado to help his parents operate a motel, operate numerous apiaries which processed honey and enrolled at the University of Colorado Boulder.

In June of 1949, he married Virginia Mae Stamp in Longmont, Colorado, and to this union were born four children. While at the University of Colorado, he achieved the rank of Colonel in the ROTC. After graduating from the University of Colorado in 1953, Bud went to work as a geologist in the oil fields. This work took Bud and his family to many western and southern states. He later worked in advertising for the Daily Sentinel in Grand Junction, Colorado and the Gazette Telegraph in Colorado Springs, Colorado. In 1969, the family moved to Arvada, Colorado where Bud pursued additional education and received his professional engineer license. He then went to work as an engineer for the State of Colorado Division of Water Resources, becoming Chief Hydrographer. He retired in 1991 and moved back to the Grand Junction area in 1997 to become a gentleman farmer and spending time traveling with Virginia. Bud was a member of the Golden Gun Club and the American Legion for many years. He also loved to sing and was a member of the Love Divine Quartet in the Arvada/Broomfield area. As a member of several different churches over the years, he was active in both choir and volunteer work for each of them. He also spent many hours volunteering in the Grand Junction community.

He is survived by his wife, Virginia, and three children: Bradley James (Petra) Walcher of Centennial, Colorado; Jaleen Ruth (Glenn) Edwards of Golden, Colorado; and, David Carl (Linda) Walcher of Aurora, Colorado. He is also survived by eight grandchildren: David D. (Jenifer) Walcher of Barnsville, Georgia; Lanessa Lee (Joe) Bannister of Frisco, Texas; Lauren K. Walcher and Brandon K. Walcher of Highlands Ranch, Colorado; Bradley J. Walcher, Jr. of Centennial, Colorado; Amanda Sinclair of Colorado Springs, Colorado; Caitlin P. Edwards and Kirstin R. Edwards of Golden, Colorado; and, numerous great-grandchildren, nieces and nephews. Additionally, he is survived by two brothers: Wendell B. (Addie) Walcher and Warren "Woody" P. (Vicki) Walcher of the Grand Junction area. His parents, sister Gladys Rose Vaughn and son R. Douglas Walcher preceded him in death.

A memorial service will be held at the Clifton Christian Church at 1:00 PM Saturday, March 13, 2010. Mr. Walcher will be laid to rest next to his son, in a private ceremony, at the Mountain View Memorial Park in Boulder, Colorado. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Hospice of Grand Junction, 3090 B North 12th Street, Grand Junction, Colorado 81506 or the Clifton Christian Church Building Program, 615 I-70 Business Loop, Clifton, Colorado 81520.

