

Never A Dull Moment

When I look back over the year I realize there is never a dull moment, for which I am grateful.

With everyone's busy schedules, we did the Davenport Christmas in January 2024 at Scottie and Kim's new house. We plan to celebrate with them the weekend after Christmas this year.

I have done lots of traveling: Chapel Hill for a UNC game in February with the Cellas and again in March with Wendy Fisher; Raleigh for the Art In Bloom display at the NC Museum of Art in March (floral displays depicting different art pieces at the museum); Myrtle Beach to play golf and shop in March; Vero Beach and Sarasota, Florida in April where Sue flew down to meet Kathy and me and we visited Nancy and Annie; Beaufort in May for a Mahjongg retreat; Maine for Jewell's memorial service in May (fresh lobsters were delicious); Pinehurst in June for an adult golf camp for the week; Blowing Rock with the Hilton Head girls in August; Florida for a breast cancer walk in



Lynne Sue (front), Karen (back), Beals Island, ME

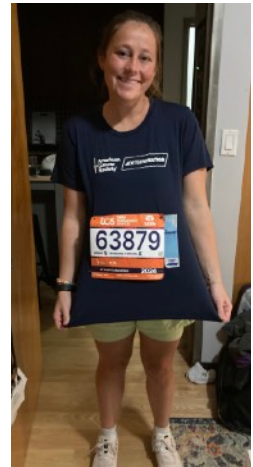
October; and Manteo for a quick three day visit where we reconnected with Tom and Lynnette Crews. We were supposed to

go to Asheville to see the Chihuly exhibit but the hurricane caused us to cancel - we have rescheduled for January 2025. I also joined the Millers in Denver for Amy's wedding in October, where we got to hike Estes Park and see some of Blair's college friends. We celebrated Blair's 29th birthday while there. Then I

went to New York City to cheer Blair on as she ran the NYC marathon in November. We enjoyed visiting Andrew and Kara and Niles in Brooklyn and spent Halloween there during the weekend of the race and attended Andrew and Kara's engagement party.



Blair & Lynne at Blair's 12 mile mark of NYC marathon.



I made several trips to Rensselaerville this summer: Memorial Day in May, July 4th we hosted 10 college girls, many of whom we had not seen for 40 years. Some had never been to Rensselaerville, so it was good time of laughing and trying to remember the good ole days. I also went back there August 10th for MillerFest and to host the church luncheon the following weekend, and then went again for Labor Day where



we had another contra dance. My beloved dog of 15 years, Penny, passed away in March from kidney disease so I flew up and back for the trips to Rensselaerville this time.

Usually she would ride up with me on my lap.

I continue to walk, play tennis, do boot camp, pickleball and golf. I played in three golf tournaments, all fundraisers, so it really did not matter about the score—thank goodness. The Craven Cancer Classic in memory of Scott and two others



College friends then and now.



was in

September and we had another record year for raising money for the local cancer patients in Craven County. It is always fun to have the family come and help out and sponsor and play. This year, unfortunately, I got covid (luckily a mild case) right after the tournament.

I am involved in a monthly book club and a weekly bible study. I host Mahjonnig at my house once a week and play weekly at the country club. I try to do dinner weekly with the WEBS (Women Evolving Beyond Sorrow). Even though some are married and single, most are widowed and it gives us something to look forward to each week. The WEBS attended the

Heart Ball in January, a fundraiser for the American Heart Association. We also planted a tree in Trent Woods in April for Arbor Day and made the cover of the neighborhood magazine.

In August, I bought another RV with Emily and Shoji at Emerald Isle. It is a great spot, just a few trailers from the beach and I hope to spend a night

there soon. I still am part owner of the other one we have had for eight years.

Weddings this year included: Erin Haseley and James in February in Cary, Jordan Malik and Bethany in July in Raleigh, Emily Miller and Shoji in September in Raleigh, and Amy and Keith in Denver in October.



Lynne and Sue

Real estate is busy still. Since I have retired from teaching, this is a means of income as well as a hobby. I also found a free piano so I hope to take lessons in the coming year to learn to play.

I attend as many plays as I can locally and am always amazed at the caliber of talent in New Bern.

Sue and I attended our 50th Ayden Grifton High School class reunion in August in Greenville, NC - how can we be that old?? I was on the planning committee with meetings once a month for a year prior to the event. We had a great time seeing and visiting with many classmates.



Blair and Lynne

I hosted 17 for Thanksgiving and we plan to have a small group for Christmas this year. Anna will not be able to



Lynne, Emily & Shoji (and Sunny) at new trailer.

come, due to some health issues and no time off. She is in downtown Baltimore with her two kitties and two roommates. Blair is in Raleigh and starts a new job in January. I am still enjoying being on the river and doing all that New Bern has to offer. I have plenty of room and welcome visitors anytime.



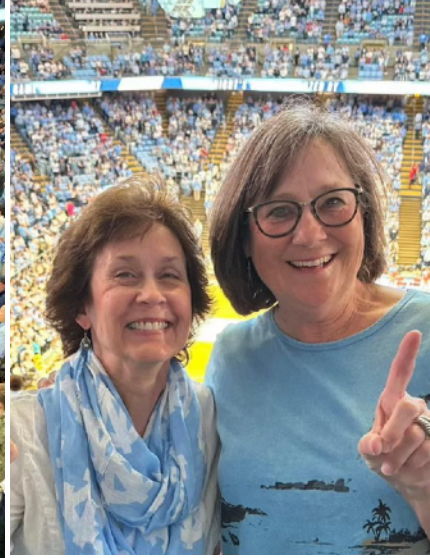
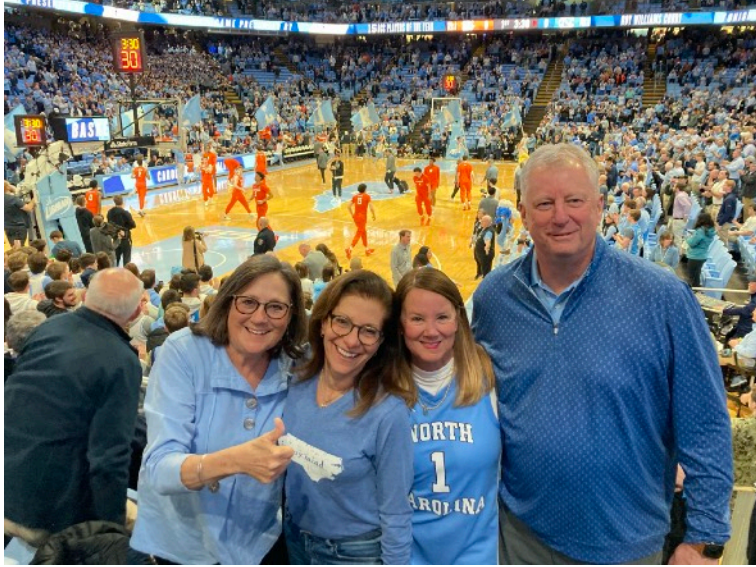
Sue and Lynne 50th class reunion.



Lynne and Blair; Beals Island, ME.

I wish everyone a healthy and Happy Holiday and New Year.

-Lynne Davenport



Blair's Milestones, Memories, and Marathon Moments

This year has been packed with travel, weddings, and plenty of time with friends and family. Here's a recap of all the adventures and milestones from 2024.

The year kicked off in Blowing Rock, snowed in with college friends as we celebrated the New Year. February brought wedding 1 of 6—Erin and James' celebration and a perfect excuse to get the family together. We also celebrated Cameron's 30th in Raleigh, and I wrapped up the month with a girls' trip to Kiawah Island, SC.



March took me west to visit my best friend Solana in Denver. We snowmobiled through Rocky Mountain National Park (getting stuck only once!) and soaked in the gorgeous views. While out there, I made a quick detour to Telluride to crash the Millers' ski trip. I skipped skiing but fully embraced the après-ski scene. Sadly, March ended on a hard note as we said goodbye to our sweet Penny after

15 wonderful years. She brought so much love and will always hold a special place in our hearts.

April was filled with music and celebrations. I went to my fourth Dreamville Festival in Raleigh, an amazing event hosted by J. Cole that brings so much energy to the city. Later



Dreamville in Raleigh.

in the month, we celebrated Emily's bridal shower, themed "A Lifetime of Butterflies," at Tania Malik's beautiful home.

May took me to Maine for Aunt Jewell's celebration of life, where I enjoyed plenty of lobster. June was a whirlwind, starting with Emily and Shoji's engagement party in New Hartford. Later that month, I went to Bonnaroo for the seventh time, doubling as Emily's "Bacheloroo." Our group of

100+ braved the heat for an unforgettable weekend. I even scored a spot in the pit for Maggie Rogers and sang along to every word. The month ended with my college roommate and good friend Caitlin's bachelorette weekend



Millers and Blair at Telluride.



Lynne, Blair, Sue and Emily

in Charleston, complete with a boat cruise and ghost tour.

July kicked off with MillerFest prep in Rensselaerville before celebrating Jordan and Bethany's wedding in Raleigh—wedding #2 of 6. In August, we hosted MillerFest 14, themed Rainbow Road. Despite some rain, the event was a huge success. We launched our first-ever online merch store, sold T-shirts on-site, and even got a literal rainbow after the storm. It was a magical weekend, and planning for our 15th next year is already underway. I also spent a long weekend in Cape Cod with friends, staying at my good friend Sam's family home in Truro. The house had been in his family since the late



MillerFest 2024

1800s similar to Rensselaerville. We spent our days paddle boarding and kayaking and evenings cooking good dinners and watching the sunset.

September kept the momentum going. I cheered on ECU vs. App State with high school friends and headed to Massachusetts for my friend Molly's gorgeous New England wedding—#3 of 6. Then came the highlight of the year: Emily and Shoji's wedding in Raleigh! Standing by Em on her big day was unforgettable, and the entire weekend was filled with love, laughter, and disco.

October began with wedding #5 of 6 for Caitlin, my college roommate. Hurricane Helene forced a last-minute venue change from Asheville to Charlotte, but it was a beautiful day nonetheless. I celebrated my 29th birthday later that month in



Bride Emily and Maid-of-Honor Blair.

Colorado while attending wedding #6 of 6 for a cousin on Stuart's side. To celebrate, we saw an incredible concert at Meow Wolf in Denver and hiked in Estes Park with Solana and Caitlin.



In November, I ran my first marathon in New York City, an experience that left me in complete awe. The energy, the crowds, and the sheer excitement of running through the city carried me to my goal time, and I already want to do another one. We celebrated Thanksgiving in New Bern with the family, and the month ended with incredible news—I accepted my dream job as a Brand Designer at Pendo and will start in the new year!

That's a wrap on 2024! Wishing you all a great holiday season and an exciting 2025.

-Blair Davenport

