

## What's Happened During the Fifty Years Since We Graduated?

<b>1968</b>	<b>The Class of 1968 graduates Shore Regional</b> during one of the most turbulent years in American history, two months after the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King in Memphis and two weeks after Senator Robert Kennedy is gunned down in Los Angeles. In October Richard Nixon wins the election to succeed Lyndon Johnson as President.
<b>1969</b>	In January the Beatles give their last public concert. The first Super Bowl is held. Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin become the first men to land on the moon (Aldrin spoke at a Shore Regional assembly in 1966). In August thousands attend the Woodstock Music Festival in upstate New York. The New York Mets shock the sports world by winning the World Series
<b>1970</b>	The first "Earth Day" is held in March in San Francisco. Four students are killed by Ohio National Guardsmen at Kent State University setting off campus riots around the country.
<b>1971</b>	"All in the Family" debuts on CBS in January. The Ed Sullivan Show airs for the last time. In October Disney World opens in Orlando. Starbucks is founded in Seattle.
<b>1972</b>	President Nixon makes an historic visit to China. Congress passes the Equal Rights Amendment and sends it to the states to ratify. For the first time in history, women are allowed to run the Boston Marathon. President Nixon says draftees will no longer be sent to Vietnam.
<b>1973</b>	U.S. fighting in the Vietnam War ends. FedEx begins package delivery. The Watergate scandal heats up. Vice President Spiro Agnew resigns due to a tax evasion charge when he was Maryland's governor. Billie Jean King defeats Bobby Riggs in the tennis "battle of the sexes."
<b>1974</b>	President Nixon resigns in the wake of Watergate and Gerald Ford becomes President. Newspaper heiress Patty Hearst is kidnapped in Berkeley, California. The UPC bar code now on every product is scanned for the first time when someone buys a package of Wrigley's gum.
<b>1975</b>	Saigon falls to the North Vietnamese. Muhammad Ali beats Joe Frazier in the "Thrilla in Manila" heavyweight title fight. Microsoft is formed. Two women make separate assassination attempts on President Ford's life a couple of weeks apart. Don't go near the water...it's the summer blockbuster, "Jaws".
<b>1976</b>	The U.S. celebrates its bicentennial with huge July 4 <sup>th</sup> events such as the tall ships sailing into New York Harbor and fireworks across the nation. The Concorde supersonic airliner begins serving the U.S. at Washington, DC. Jimmy Carter is elected, defeating President Ford.
<b>1977</b>	President Carter on his first full day in office pardons Vietnam War draft evaders. Elvis Presley dies. The first home computer, the Commodore PET, goes on sale.
<b>1978</b>	The first casino in Atlantic City, Resorts International, opens. The TV show Dallas debuts on CBS. The Susan B. Anthony dollar coin is introduced. "Space Invaders" arcade game is released.
<b>1979</b>	A major accident occurs at the Three Mile Island nuclear power plant in Pennsylvania. McDonalds introduces the Happy Meal. ESPN, the first cable sports channel, is launched. The U.S. Embassy in Tehran is stormed and 52 Americans are taken hostage.
<b>1980</b>	The U.S. Olympic hockey team defeats the Russians in Lake Placid, NY in the game that became known as "The Miracle on Ice." The first all-news cable station, CNN, is launched. Mount St. Helens volcano erupts in Washington State. Ronald Reagan is elected President, defeating Jimmy Carter. John Lennon is shot and killed outside of his New York City apartment.
<b>1981</b>	Ronald Reagan becomes President and on the same day 52 American's held hostage by Iran for 444 days are released. On March 30, John Hinckley shoots President Reagan outside the Hilton Hotel in Washington, DC. Columbia makes the first Space Shuttle flight. The first cases of AIDS are reported. MTV is launched.
<b>1982</b>	The Vietnam Veterans Memorial is dedicated in Washington, DC. The Weather Channel begins broadcasting. AT&T is broken up to reduce its monopoly power.
<b>1983</b>	The final episode of M*A*S*H airs in late February. Sally Ride becomes the first American woman and Guion Bluford the first African-American in space. A Korean Airlines jet is shot down by the Soviet Union killing 289 people including a U.S. Congressman. The U.S. government allows civilians to begin using the GPS system. <b><u>Shore Regional's Class of 1968 holds a 15-year reunion.</u></b>

<b>1984</b>	Bruce Springsteen releases Born in the U.S.A. Alex Trebek takes over as host of Jeopardy when it moves into syndication. Ronald Reagan is reelected, defeating Walter Mondale. The summer Olympics are held in Los Angeles, but the Soviet Union boycotts. The first cellphones in the U.S. are introduced.
<b>1985</b>	Coca-Cola introduces "New Coke" in April. The taste flops and the original formula is reintroduced three months later. Nintendo releases its first home video game console. Madonna launches her first concert tour. Microsoft releases the first version of Windows.
<b>1986</b>	In January the Space Shuttle Challenger explodes 73 seconds after launch from Cape Kennedy, Florida killing the 7 astronauts on board. The US Senate begins to allow televising of its sessions.
<b>1987</b>	In January the Dow Jones average closes above 2,000 for the first time, but on October 19 <sup>th</sup> falls 22% on Black Monday. The Iran-Contra Affair involving the sale of arms by the Reagan Administration to Iran (despite an embargo) to raise money to fund the Contra rebels in Nicaragua is the top political drama in D.C. The Simpsons cartoon appears for the first time on the Tracy Ullman Show.
<b>1988</b>	Medical waste, including syringes possibly infected with AIDS, washes up on New York Area beaches, including those in Monmouth County. Oliver North is indicted for his role in the Iran-Contra Affair. A NASA scientist, James Hansen, becomes the first person to testify before the Senate that man-made global warming has begun. George H.W. Bush is elected president. <b>Shore Regional's Class of 1968 holds a 20-year reunion.</b>
<b>1989</b>	The first GPS satellite is put into orbit. The Exxon Valdez spills almost a quarter million barrels of oil in Alaska's Prince William Sound. The Solidarity Party wins elections in Poland which sets off a string of similar revolutions that result in the end of Communist rule in Eastern and Central Europe. Later in the year the Berlin Wall fell. A similar revolt against single party rule in China was crushed in Beijing's Tiananmen Square.
<b>1990</b>	U.S. invades Panama to overthrow Manuel Noriega. The Hubble Space Telescope is launched. East and West Germany are reunited. The first transatlantic internet connection is activated. The first McDonalds' are opened in Russia and China.
<b>1991</b>	Iraq invades Kuwait and the U.S. responds with Operation Desert Storm. The Soviet Union dissolves as former republics declare their independence. Bill Clinton, governor of Arkansas, announces he will run for President. Cable TV's Comedy Central is launched. Basketball player Magic Johnson announces he has HIV ending his basketball career.
<b>1992</b>	The U.S. and Russia announce that they will stop targeting each others' cities with nuclear missiles as they declare an end to the Cold War. Six days of massive rioting break out in Los Angeles after four police officers are acquitted in the beating of Rodney King. Hurricane Andrew devastates South Florida. Bill Clinton defeats George H.W. Bush in the presidential election. Music CD's outsell audio cassettes for the first time.
<b>1993</b>	A bomb in a car parked underneath the World Trade Center in New York fails to bring the building down but kills 6 people and injures around 1,000. A 51-day standoff at the Branch Davidian compound in Waco, Texas ends with a fire that burns down the building and kills 76 people. Floods in the Midwest and wildfires in California wreak havoc in those parts of the country.
<b>1994</b>	The North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) is signed into law. O.J. Simpson's wife is stabbed to death outside her home and the former football star is arrested for the murder after a low speed highway chase in Southern California. Jeff Bezos founds Amazon. Major league baseball players go on strike and the World Series is cancelled.
<b>1995</b>	The Federal building in Oklahoma City is bombed, killing 168 people. Microsoft releases Windows 95. America On Line and Prodigy become the first online services to offer access to the World Wide Web. O.J. Simpson is found not guilty of murdering his wife and Ronald Goldman. The Million Man March is held in Washington, DC.
<b>1996</b>	A major Northeast blizzard kills 150 people with schools closed in New York City for the first time in 18 years and the Federal government in Washington closed for an entire week. The Summer Olympics are held in Atlanta, and one person is killed and 111 injured in a bombing at the Centennial Olympic Park. Bill Clinton wins reelection as President defeating Bob Dole.

<b>1997</b>	Princess Diana is killed in a car crash in Paris. Madeleine Albright becomes the first female Secretary of State. Astronauts make the first in orbit “service call”, using the Space Shuttle to fly to the Hubble Space Telescope and repair it.
<b>1998</b>	The Monica Lewinsky Affair attracts the attention of the Nation and in December the House of Representatives sends articles of impeachment against President Clinton to the Senate. Google is founded by two Stanford University PhD candidates. Construction begins on the International space Station which continues to orbit the earth today, 20 years later. <b><u>Shore Regional’s Class of 1968 holds a 30-year reunion.</u></b>
<b>1999</b>	President Clinton is acquitted in his Senate impeachment trial. For the first time ever, the Dow Jones Average tops 10,000. The Columbine High School Massacre in Littleton, Colorado leaves 12 students, 1 teacher and the two teenage gunmen dead. Music download service Napster debuts. JFK, Jr., his wife and sister-in-law die when his plane crashes off of Martha’s Vineyard.
<b>2000</b>	Despite concerns that computers would be unable to transition correctly from 1999 to the year 2000, the “Y2K” worries proved largely unfounded as most software had been modified to handle the change. The final original Peanuts cartoon strip is published. George W. Bush defeats Al Gore for the Presidency in an election decided by the Supreme Court. The Toyota Prius becomes the first hybrid car sold in the U.S.
<b>2001</b>	The terrorist attacks on September 11 <sup>th</sup> kill nearly 3,000 people in New York and Washington. The attack using airliners brings down both towers of the World Trade Center in New York and changes the nature of security, especially for air travelers, in the United States and around the world. The U.S. invades Afghanistan to try and stamp out Al Qaeda and worldwide terrorism. Letters laced with Anthrax spores are mailed to news organizations killing five people. The first space tourist spends 8 days aboard the International Space Station.
<b>2002</b>	The Winter Olympics are held in Salt Lake City. The Department of Homeland Security is created to make sure that there is no repeat of a terrorist attack like those on 9/11/01. The Euro replaces the various national currencies in Europe.
<b>2003</b>	The U.S. invades Iraq in March and in a few weeks Saddam Hussein’s government crumbles. He is captured in December by the U.S. Army. The U.S., Russia, China, Japan and the two Koreas meet to resolve concerns about North Korea’s nuclear weapons program. (Sound familiar?) Space Shuttle Columbia breaks up on reentry over Texas, killing the seven astronauts on board. <b><u>Shore Regional’s Class of 1968 holds a 35-year reunion.</u></b>
<b>2004</b>	Facebook is created by Mark Zuckerberg. George W. Bush is reelected President. The Boston Red Sox win their first World Series since 1918, reversing the “Curse of the Bambino (Babe Ruth).”
<b>2005</b>	The first video is uploaded to YouTube. Hurricane Katrina devastates the Gulf Coast, and New Orleans is inundated with flood waters when the levees fail. North Korea announces that it has nuclear weapons.
<b>2006</b>	Pluto is demoted from being a planet—so forget what you learned in science at Shore Regional! Former President Gerald Ford dies.
<b>2007</b>	Apple introduces the iPhone. A shooting at Virginia Tech kills 32 people and wounds 17, the largest mass shooting in the U.S. at that time. Nancy Pelosi becomes the first female Speaker of the House.
<b>2008</b>	Barack Obama is elected President. The Dow Jones average suffers its largest one day decline following the bankruptcy of Lehman Brothers. Elon Musk’s SpaceX becomes the first private company to put a rocket into orbit. <b><u>Shore Regional’s Class of 1968 holds a 40-year reunion.</u></b>
<b>2009</b>	“Swine Flu” becomes a global pandemic. President Obama wins the Nobel Peace Prize. Senator Ted Kennedy, TV journalist Walter Cronkite and singer Michael Jackson die in 2009.
<b>2010</b>	The Deepwater Horizon oil drilling platform explodes in the Gulf of Mexico and causes one of the largest oil spills in history. WikiLeaks posts 90,000 internal government reports about U.S. involvement in the war in Afghanistan, and 250,000 internal cables, half of which are marked “secret” or “confidential”.
<b>2011</b>	The U.S. finds and kills Osama Bin Laden in Pakistan. The last Space Shuttle flight is completed. “Occupy Wall Street” protests begin. Over two days, 362 tornadoes in the Midwest, East and South kill 324 people and injure over 2,000.

<b>2012</b>	After 246 consecutive years, the Encyclopedia Britannica prints its last edition. The Mars rover named Curiosity lands on the red planet for a two year exploration mission. It continues to explore today, six years later. Barack Obama is reelected President.
<b>2013</b>	Two bombs explode at the Boston Marathon, killing 3 and injuring over 250. Former CIA contractor Edward Snowden leaks information about the agency, then flees the country and ends up getting asylum in Russia. <a href="#"><u>Shore Regional's Class of 1968 has a 45-year get together.</u></a>
<b>2014</b>	The U.S. imposes sanctions on Russia due to its invasion of the Ukraine. Later in the year the U.S. and Cuba announce that they will begin to normalize relations which had been suspended for 53 years in an effort to topple the country's communist regime.
<b>2015</b>	Donald Trump formally announces that he is running for President in 2016. NASA announces that water in liquid form has been found on Mars.
<b>2016</b>	The Chicago Cubs win the World Series for the first time in 108 years. The U.S. and China, responsible jointly for 40% of the world's carbon emissions, announce they will join the Paris Global Climate Agreement. Donald Trump is elected President.
<b>2017</b>	Computers are hit with "ransomware" attacks, and many companies pay to regain access. Hurricane Harvey causes massive flooding and damage in the Houston Area, and Puerto Rico is devastated by Hurricane Irma. The U.S. announces it will withdraw from the Paris climate agreement. A mass shooting of a concert crowd in Las Vegas kills 58 and injures over 800.
<b>2018</b>	President Trump and North Korean Dictator Kim Jung Un meet in Singapore to discuss nuclear disarmament of the Korean Peninsula. Marches around the country and the world, initiated by students from Stoneman-Douglas High School in Florida where a mass shooting occurred in February, call for tighter gun control and an end to gun violence. <a href="#"><u>Shore Regional's Class of 1968 marks half a century since graduation with a reunion weekend.</u></a>

**After this weekend's reunion, keep up with your classmates on Facebook at:**

***Shore Regional Class of 1968 50th Class Reunion.***

**And at the Class of 1968 website at:**

***[www.shoreregionalclassof1968.us](http://www.shoreregionalclassof1968.us)***