DO YOU REMEMBER...

Cherokee Street

by Marilyn Rubin, Class of 1954



Globe Drugs - still doing business on the same corner.

DO YOU REMEMBER Taking a break from studying, finding your roommate and heading down to Cherokee Street?

Proper Shoe store was where most students bought their Clinic white shoes. Did you know that this store closed just a few years ago?

Woolworth's, on the corner of Cherokee and California, was a favorite place, maybe because we could afford it. You could buy most anything at Globe Drugs. It must have been the Wal-Mart of that day. Globe Drugs is still doing business in the very same spot.

On Ohio and Cherokee, Annie had her produce stand and you could hear her selling her fruits and vegetables as she sang out the prices when you passed by. You could still hear her a block away. After she left her stand, she worked for 905 Liquor Store for 15 years. When we went to Holy Cross to church, many of us wore hats in those days. The Hat Mart on California and Cherokee just recently closed. That was a long run.

If you were hungry, there was the diner, Braswells on Jefferson and Cherokee, Thurmers for refreshments and Velvet Freeze Ice Cream for just the right treat. Or if you felt like walking farther, you could get watermelon at Compton and Cherokee in the summer. Braswells demolished the diner and built a brick building in the same place. They enlarged the size and made it a restaurant. After some years in this building, they moved to Gravois, near Lindbergh, still in the restaurant business. Eventually, they sold this building and it is still a restaurant. There is a Health Center in the former Braswell building on Jefferson.



Proper Shoe & Uniforms

If you had enough money, you could go to the movies at the Cinderella Theater on Cherokee, which was close, especially when you were on call. When you entered the theater, you could let the usher know where you were sitting. If you had a call, the usher would come and give you the message personally; no cell phones then. At other times, it was not a far walk to go to the Melvin Theater on Chippewa.



Casaloma Ballroom – still swinging!

Neither of these theaters is still operating but the Casaloma Ballroom is still swinging. We can't forget the Black Forest down Cherokee St. Joe Hrdlicka played his accordion and served dinners.

Cherokee St. is still there but it doesn't look like the old Cherokee St. that most of us knew. Globe Drug and the Hat Mart are probably the only spots that most would recognize. It's still a busy street with many diverse businesses and cultures now operating the stores.

You probably can still identify the places in your memory that we visited many years ago on Cherokee St. and remember the good Velvet Freeze ice cream cones.



Eisele's Black Forest