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2006

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## Alumni Weekend & Banquet

Each year the Alumni are invited to join others in St. Louis for a gathering of classmates and fellow Lutheran School of Nursing graduates. The festivities usually start the Friday night before the banquet. A room is set aside for everyone to sit and talk while they munch on snacks and sip on their drink of choice. People are free to gather in their hotel rooms, explore the familiar places of training days, check out one of the neat restaurants in the Westport area, take a walk around the Westport lake, take a swim, attend a Cardinal game or just "crash" and rest up for the events of the next day. Believe me, most people do not choose the last choice, but it is an option!

On August 4-5, 2006, graduates flew in from all over the United States. It was a time for classmates to renew friendships. It was a chance to examine the things of the present and to rejoice and laugh about the things of the past. It was a "good thing," as Martha Stewart would say. The classes that were celebrating anniversary years were especially well-attended. Every-



*Vi Kuecke ('46) is presented with a flower in celebration of her 60th.*

one enjoyed watching the Class of 1956 gather for their 50th Anniversary. The instant recognition of a face from the past, the excitement of seeing someone they hadn't seen for 50 years, the immediate renewal of the closeness they shared so many years ago became a new and present joy!

On Saturday, graduates joined together for a breakfast brunch, class pictures, and laughed and hugged as more classmates arrived. At noon the banquet was held. Our President Martha Hoffstetter welcomed everyone and topics of interest ("what's happening at the school these days?") were addressed, and a wonderful meal was served.

Also, each year there is a speaker. We are given the chance to learn something new or ask questions and seek answers from an expert on a subject with which we are already familiar. In 2006 our speaker was Carol Schlef, RNC, MSUL, IBCLE, LCCE. She spoke to us on the subject of Alternative Therapy.