

## The Lane at 455 West Florence

In 2011 Jim and I drove down the long and dusty, gravel lane at 455 West Florence Road, Freeport, Illinois. This is where my beloved five were brought home as infants; it is where they played (and fought...boy, could they fight!) during all their childhood.



This is the driveway they used when they went away to distant schools. It is here they brought their friends, their fiancés and, later, their spouses. Five of my thirteen grandchildren came to visit when I lived here.

*Below are Randy and Larry in back. Front: Cindy, Sandi and Lori.*



Now the driveway belongs to a stranger and it is barricaded at the former hog-finishing house.  
The Faist family has moved on and there are no longer animals in the buildings.



If I listen very closely, the gentle breezes in my heart still carry the giggles of my precious little blondes and I smile as we slowly drive back to the road.

