

HARNEY COUNTY HISTORY PROJECT

AV-Oral History #365 - Sides A/B/C/D

Subject: Jim McDade - With Video

Place: McDade Home - Fields, Oregon

Date: July 21, 1994

Interviewers: Barbara Lofgren & Dorothea Purdy

Release Form: Yes

DOROTHEA PURDY: We'd like to start with a short introduction of who we're talking to today. And let's first ask you your name, but first we'll say we're at Fields, Oregon, at the home of Jim McDade. And the date is July the 21st, 1994, and this tape is number 365. Jim, can you tell us your full name?

JIM McDADE: James D. McDade.

DOROTHEA: And what were your parent's names?

JIM: Estella Mary Huffman, and she was, you may have heard some time back of Bill Huffman who used to be, well he owned the Wildhorse Ranch up above Andrews, now. And right above where the Blair's presently are, which used to be the Charlie Turner Ranch. And Charlie Turner had, which you might be acquainted with now, is Mrs. Alice Johnston that has the clothing store. She was the youngest one of the girls. And there was Ethel and Mrs. Roy Clark, and then there was Hazel Lathe, the older girl that had --- the ranch that my mother was on when she was a youngster and went to grade school at Andrews. Why they all went to school together, and I believe Alice Johnson or Johnston?

BARBARA LOFGREN: Johnston.

DOROTHEA: Johnston.

JIM: Yeah. I remember, I can't remember his name right at the moment. But they used to ride to school to Andrews, and then when Mother's mother and dad separated why her mother went to

Andrews and run the hotel, or cooked in the hotel I believe. Mrs. Shull, or Marjorie could probably tell you for sure.

But anyway later she married George Smyth. There was George Smyth and John Smyth from Fresno, California, or in that general area, came up ... (Recorder problems) and years ago they had the store and post office, and the same at Fields. I can't recall who they bought the one from Andrews, but the one at Fields apparently was Charlie Fields. And his family, I have pictures of him here somewhere. And then --- you want to go on about where Mom and Aunt Nell went to school or something?

BARBARA: Well, can you tell us who your father was, your father's name?

JIM: James Michael McDade. And he was the youngest of; I think they had one sister, and about five or six boys. ... (Recorder problems) First of all, he said he was the youngest, so he kind of root hog, and he had to know how to take care of yourself, or you didn't always get your share. There is pictures of his mother and so on in some of those albums.

And he, my father, when he was about 19 --- and then his next oldest brother Edward McDade, during the Klondike, Alaska, Klondike area in Alaska gold rush, why they made roads and bridges. And I understood, did some contract work for some of the people that had claims. He did have, years ago, but I think that different nephews and ones that Mother knew wanted something from my father as a remembrance. He had different gold chains and, you know, they used to have those old fashioned with the big fobs and all that stuff.

BARBARA: Pocket watches, and ---

JIM: Yeah.

BARBARA: Uh-huh.

JIM: And then his brother, Edward, passed away with pneumonia and Dad at that time, you know, they didn't have the refrigeration units that they do now, when someone passes away. And his brother said he always wanted to be buried back in the New England states, Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, and so on. So he had to, as a kid about 19, take that body all the way back there.

BARBARA: Oh, my.

JIM: And the way the facilities were at the time; it wasn't all that pleasant.

BARBARA: I can imagine.

JIM: And they didn't have refrigeration and such. And he said he never, if he knew what it was, he would have disregarded his brother's wishes because it wasn't the appropriate time of the year for a person to pass away when there is no refrigeration.

Then after they left Alaska, why my father come back to Lake County and he and a gentleman by the name of Embodey, who was in the lumber, and the timber properties. ... (Recorder problems)
The Basque boy that was here with us, or with me, why we always had best of luck, we cut them under the tail and then the third wrinkle of the mouth. The ones that you thought sure were going to bleed to death were the ones that lived. So and at that time, they didn't have the telephone communication and so on.

DOROTHEA: Now it's recording again, so let's put back on there that this is sleeping sickness of horses, is what you're talking about.

JIM: Yeah. That was in, well, that was in the '40's. And Joe Muniategui, a Basque boy, you know, he come from the province of Vizcaya and where the capitol of that province in Spain and France is in it, I believe the Pyrenees Mountains there between the two countries. And I don't, I don't know, there is just something about those Basque, French Basque or Spanish Basque, that they've got a way with livestock that many Americans just never did have. They just, they make it their life, or they seem to be more understanding, or more observing.

But anyway, we had, everybody, you know, the flies and mosquitoes and all was pretty bad, they didn't have sprays and things like they do now. And two thirds of the people, very few had any tractors to amount to anything. Mostly your equipment was horse, old time where you'd have to --- well you had to, you'd either put some type of --- we mixed some kind of a, I think it was a light diesel. And sometimes you could just lightly, because if you put it on too much it would burn them, but you could wipe your animals with that and the horse flies wouldn't bother them so bad. But oh, they'd just raise heck with them. If you were driving too, they'd bite you, too. Or deer flies,

horse flies, and so on.

But then anyway, to make a long story short, we had a great big sorrel horse that we called Sweetheart, and he come down with this. And this was before we learned about the, cutting them under the tail and the third wrinkle of the mouth. But I did understand that if you kept cold water on them, or packed them, and that the treatment was to pack their heads in ice and stuff like that. If you didn't have a vet and a cool room or somewhere to put the infected animal.

Of course, it was very contagious; you could get it from horse flies, mosquitoes, and in haying time, normally, you got nicks and bruises and stuff on your hands. And when you're working with a horse like that, why, you could get infected from that way. Well anyway, found out later years --- they didn't know I had a strep throat first, and it left me, and I lost about 45 pounds or better in less than two weeks. Of course, things were tight, and I finally got so I couldn't work a full day, but I could at least grind sickles. Finally, I got so weak I couldn't do that, with this strep throat I couldn't swallow. So after about, better than a week, somewhere close to ten days, why, they finally took me to town. And of course, nobody could afford to go driving around the town, especially at Andrews. Just, you know, you had to --- so you couldn't do anything, you didn't go.

But anyway, they didn't know for quite some years, just, they knew I had some type of a fever. But then, in later years, why, there was a doctor down at the University of, in Stanford Lane, and then this other main doctor that did more experimenting, Bloomfield, or he had a field on his name anyway, was the one that was testing it with rabbits and guinea pigs and things like that. Well, they come up, and they found out that I had had, this was about three years later, but various doctors and hospitals, they would have me run up and down the stairs like when they're checking your blood pressure and so on. And jumping here and there, and jumping rope and this and that, and then they'd take their readings. It left me, at that time, with a, what they called a strained Vegas nerve, which is similar; they call it the bundle of hiss, or hiss in the heart if you're a nurse, or you know what it means. It's similar to a governor on a gasoline or a motor. And it raised heck, the main part with this ... fever was just like the old-fashioned tick fever in that respect. They claimed that it would weaken some portion of your body usually, either your kidneys, or your breathing, or some

portion of your body.

Well, in my particular case, it weakened this governor or pacemaker, or what a pacemaker is used to stabilize. And when I would overexert or get too tired, I just, boom, you pass out. I never felt too ridiculous, and so useless, and helpless in your life. And then finally, they put me on different regulators, different types of digitalis, quinine, and guanidine. Now they have enderal, and then the, what do you call the other --- you can't, when you use it that many years, your system just, well you

BARBARA: Immune to it.

JIM: Gets immune, and you have to keep taking more, and such. And digitalis was something that would, I had, I'm not trying to run the medical profession down, but I had a couple of doctors, why, they'd say, "Well, increase your dosage." Damn it, any doctor that ever tells you like that, shoot him! Because the more you take, well, digitalis is a very sensitive drug. And the more you take, it gets so that you can't, it makes you more sensitive, and all it would do is throw you into a spell.

You just take off, and your heart beats so fast, fibrillation, tach cardio, whatever you want to call it, it's just like the governor or the needle valve in your carburetor. If the damn thing sticks, you don't get no blood or circulation, boom, you're down.

And I'd get along sometimes for several months, and I'd think well, I can do something else. I'll do something like I used to. I might get away with it for four or five days, or a week, and all of a sudden, boom, you could feel it, just like when you're going to faint, or somebody clipped you real good. You're just ain't functioning like you ought to be, you lose your legs, and that's it. (Laughter) But anyway, they found out that, and over the years, why, I took for years all types of heart regulators. Because your system gets so that they have to change them. Now it's profonol is the most general one. It's a derivative, not derivative, but it's one they make up. But it's so much cheaper than the inderal for heart patients.

But of course, now that I'm retiring and you don't have to, I hope to stay that way, you don't have to fool with people's books, payroll, how you going to pay for this, and how you can get all those parts as soon as haying is over instead of waiting until the next haying. And if you talk to some of these

dealers right, they'll give you five to ten percent knock off. Because rather than carry the damn stuff all year on the books --- and I did it for years. If they don't want to talk to you, why that's fine.

Well, I'm going to --- no, you're a little high. I don't need them now until next year, but if you want to sit down and figure it, give me at least three to five percent, we'll do some business. But if you're not, why, goodbye. You start up and walk out, you'd be surprised when they know damn well you're going to buy five or six hundred dollars at least, of parts, rake teeth, buck teeth, different hydraulic cups, and different filters, and this and that and the other.

And of course, you had to figure every way in the book to save every damn penny you could. You keep thinking, well, if I can just make five hundred, or a thousand dollars more, why, we'd have it made. Then I could go ahead and buy this, we could remodel the house, or we could do this. And sure as hell something would happen, and take more than that. (Laughter)

BARBARA: It always happens.

JIM: Sometimes, if I'd have known when I started that it was going to take as many years as it did, for my father passed away in '32, why to keep trying to buy the neighbors and this little place, and some county land, and a water hole here, and something, if I'd have known it was going to take this many years, I think I would have went and just washed dishes in a restaurant or something else.

Because ---

BARBARA: Had a different occupation, huh?

JIM: It does, it, I see some of our neighbors, they're good people, they're fine people, they got goals, they got morals, they got principles, they got some brains, and stick-to-itiveness. But honest to god, like we was saying a few minutes ago, without they live to be twice as old as I am, at the rate they're going, they're not ever going to get the place paid for.

BARBARA: Yeah, that's true.

JIM: There is no way.

BARBARA: No, that's right.

JIM: Now, I'm not a mathematician, but I know two and two is four. But it's really too bad.

BARBARA: Well, we might back up just a little bit here and ask you when and where you were

born.

JIM: In St. Alphonsus, the old St. Alphonsus Hospital that was close to the capitol building in Boise.

DOROTHEA: And what date?

JIM: September the 3rd, 1917.

DOROTHEA: And let's go back a little further again, just in case this thing was making that funny noise at that time, and find out your father's name again.

JIM: James Michael McDade.

BARBARA: How did your mother and father meet?

JIM: Well, after he, we were talking a while ago about being in the timber business with Mr. Embodey, then they shipped stock up to Alaska and did fairly well. Then, he had enough money. He thought he could start in the business. So he come back down into this country. And my mother and her mother were, it was right after her mother married George Smyth, or Margie Shull's father, and why they had the hotel, and post office, and store at Andrews. Why then, he would come in there to buy supplies from the, with a pack string. Of course, now you've got roads all over Steens, and Pueblo and Trout Creek and so on, you can go practically anyplace. But then, they didn't. And that was how the folks met. I believe they were married about 1913. And my dad was about, I think, 12 years older than Mother. Dad passed away in May of 1933.

BARBARA: And so where did you live during your growing-up years, and where did you go to school then?

JIM: Well, after Mother and Dad were married, I was born in 1917, and this place here was a string of homestead entries. So the folks bought them from the different ones. We still call the place farthest west here, up the canyon, the Williams place. There was an old gentleman by the name of Mr. Williams. Then, part of this place here, there was a fellow by the name of Mr. Duffy. Then there was the McKelvey's that had this place right down where you passed the rim rock. And then, they had the sheep; Dad went into the sheep business. And of course, when he went into the sheep business, why he was lucky enough, and I do mean lucky, he got a Basque partner by the name of

Santos Yribarren.

BARBARA: Do you know how to spell that?

JIM: Not without guessing. (Laughter) It might be in some of those pictures. Anyway, he stayed with us, or he and Dad were partners for years and years. Then there was a John Biggs ---

BARBARA: Biggs?

JIM: Biggs, who was a lawyer in Burns. Now Dalton Biggs, his brother, was the one that --- he was circuit judge or something, as far as the water decree on Trout Creek is concerned, or the testimony, well statements they took to establish water rights on Trout Creek. And he passed away, for about the late '20's, Santos Yribarren, he was, we were lambing down at Trout Creek. Him and Mr. Biggs, Mr. John Biggs, went into partners on the Trout Creek Ranch. John Biggs was probably, well-known lawyer for, at that time, but as far as the actual experience on a country like this country was, Dad did all the work, and he kept the books, is what it amounted to. Because I'm still, like I say, we have records here from the early 1900's. Most of them are from 1913 on.

And then when they started planning, and made this home here about 1912, or 1913, we have an old bill --- I know it's here somewhere, where they bought from the Stark Nursery, the fruit trees down here, in 1913. Well, some of the trees are there, but most of them are dead now. Because after, well, sickness and so on, why, we kind of neglected the place here before Mother passed away, and nobody was here to spray or to prune or take care of things. And we were lucky enough to have leasers, and rented to people that --- well, that took care of things halfway.

DOROTHEA: So this is where your parents lived, you're living in the same home as your parents did?

JIM: Right, yeah. Then in, went to grade school, oh started in Winnemucca, but being a country hick, it didn't work too good.

BARBARA: Did they board you out to go to school down there?

JIM: They boarded me with another Basque, or a Basque family by the name of Pete, Hobo Pete they called him, Pete Egoscue. He was a sheep man also in Nevada. So I, and they had five kids, and his wife had taught school at Andrews. So that's, in prior years before Mother and Dad were

married. So, they had kids my age, and some of them older, and they lived in Winnemucca, why, Winnemucca was where they took me.

But I was, well, being the only son, only kid, I guess, it was part of --- I'm not going to take all the blame for being bull-headed, and independent. But I, you know, when you go to a new school, I found out later as I got in high school, my mother thought that I would get to well acquainted if I stayed in one place for too long. Well I didn't, and I was too plain spoken, and I was too independent, and when I was playing, when I would get the basketball or whatever, why, I would get a little bit too involved. And my dad, like I said, he was low man on the totem pole with kids, brothers that he had, being the youngest, so he used to always spar and box with me and stuff like that. And I thought that was the way to play, I did.

And so, when any kids would come, why, Dad would usually say, "My gosh, I might have two bits, or four bits, or something here, the best two out of three falls." Or you had to run a foot race, or if the kid didn't outweigh me by more than fifty pounds, or sixty, why --- get your gloves. Gosh, sometimes, you know, when a kid, when you're a kid, and the guy out weighs you fifty, sixty pounds, that's quite a lot, because that means a couple, three years.

But he always spared around with me and kind of, well, he never was, fought professionally. But when he was a kid, I guess, he had a lot of fun until he got out of school, and did compete that way, and as I did later.

But some of the neighbor kids they'd say, you know, I just love to go visit Stella, but that kid of her's, when they had kids, you know, he's mean, he don't know how to play. (Laughter)

BARBARA: It was always a competition.

JIM: No, I didn't know how to play. Dad always, after we'd box with somebody, if I got too aggressive he'd say, "You didn't have to get that aggressive to prove you were the better man."

"Well Daddy, he's bigger than me, he had the reach on me, he's older than I am." "Yeah, but you didn't have to get so aggressive after he got tired, you didn't have to pour it on him like that."

So I lost, but --- afterwards, you should have done so and so, you should have --- he'd get in there and show me. "Keep him off balance." "But Daddy, he was so much bigger." "No, no, you're not

stuck to the ground, move, when he gets pooped you've got him." (Laughter) So I believed it. So when I went to school in Winnemucca, why, any kid that would look at me second time, and question ---

BARBARA: You were the class bully, then?

JIM: Why, no, I didn't pick any fights, but if they said, no, it's so and so, why, I'd go ask the coach or the teacher. And if she said not necessarily, well, we had an understanding. So it got so they didn't, when they chose up sides --- well, who, which side is he on? (Laughter) Funny part of it was most of them would say, well, if he is on that side, I'll be on that side. But anyway, it didn't pan out because I had got so I ---

They put me before the, you know, the folks were busy, they weren't there. They didn't say, "Now look, you've got to learn to read and write, and you're going to do it the right way and so on. And there is more to life than just playing games, and winning, and so on." So then she went, we came back, and my mother went to work for Uncle John in the store at Andrews, store, and post office. Went to school there for several years. Then later, there was a schoolhouse down here below the old Doan ranch, or where Mary and ---

BARBARA: Frank Kueny?

JIM: No, that's up at Andrews, this side of Andrews. But this place was down here where Dixon's are now. I can't think of Mr. Dixon's name. Well, he was an electrical contractor over in the Willamette Valley. And after the kids got raised, and he got them kind of educated, why, they had a separation. Then he remarried, and the people by the name of Dixon are living there now. They used to have a schoolhouse there, about a mile and a half, or a mile south of the Doan Ranch, as it was called then, way back at that time, Melvin Doan Ranch.

Then they moved the schoolhouse because there was no children in that, down in that end, up to Fields. So then, I finished most of my grade schooling right there at Fields. It was a building that is on the west side of the ... going to Denio. Not down there where you see the most east building now at Fields, where there is a metal roof and a cement for basketball, and an L-shaped two room, two large rooms plus their facility. Why, oh where they can cook, as well as their lavatories.

Then when, the second year that Mr. Nelson B. Higgs from Crane was the one that was most instrumental in establishing the Crane boarding school.

DOROTHEA: Now, did he later become the judge of Burns?

JIM: Right.

DOROTHEA: Okay, same man?

JIM: Yeah. And he had a son called Harold, daughter called Mary, and then there was another younger girl, Joann or ---

DOROTHEA: Jo Ellen.

JIM: Jo Ellen?

DOROTHEA: Uh-huh.

JIM: I haven't seen Mary or them since, in the '30's.

DOROTHEA: She married Edwin Myers.

JIM: Oh.

DOROTHEA: Mary did.

JIM: Where do they live?

DOROTHEA: I don't know where they lived after they moved here. But she married Ed.

JIM: He went on a ranch, and livestock and ---

DOROTHEA: I don't know.

JIM: Oh.

BARBARA: So did you then go to Crane for your, finish your high school?

JIM: Went to Crane, no, just like I said, Mother didn't want me to get too well acquainted. She thought that I, well liked the girls too much I guess. I'll admit it; I always did like girls better than boys.

BARBARA: Well, that's good.

JIM: Because they were just to box with, and to play football, and wrestle and so on. But I really didn't, well I don't think I was overly aggressive or anything.

DOROTHEA: You don't have any brothers or sisters of your own?

JIM: No, Mother had lost two before I was born. She was really, as the rest of the family, her older brothers and her next younger sister said the tomboy of the family. If the boys could ride a calf or a colt, why, she was going to ride it, and she would sooner or later. And of course, she got hurt and banged around, and sometimes that don't help a person later on when they start to raise a family, when you crush your body here and there and so on.

Went one year to Crane, then one year to Portland, second year in Portland, Columbia they called it. They had Columbia Prep they called the high school. And they had the college there; they called it Columbia University at that time. They changed the name later to Portland U., and now it is co-educational. I kind of laugh when it was just a boy's school. But really, they associated with the other girl Catholic schools, and the nurse's school, and so on. And really as far as trying to think you were going to send your kid to an all boys' school ---

BARBARA: It wasn't quite true.

JIM: It wasn't quite the way it worked. But anyway, then the third year, because I used to sneak off and I'd go down to the --- from what my dad had taught me before ---

And back in those years, in the '30's it was, maybe you ladies don't recall, but things were pretty tight. And anything you could do to make a little money, because Dad, it took quite a little medicine for him, it left him, he had fluid pneumonia, left him with Parkinson's disease. And sometimes, it was all we could do to keep the bills up, pay a few groceries, and taxes, and so on. So, I wanted something, or a pair of new tennis shoes, or some more new clothes, or something, why, I knew how I was going to get it. Lots of times, Mom would send in the letter a, find enclosed, find check, but it wouldn't be there. Well, so, I didn't depend on that too much, because I knew damn well she didn't have it, it wasn't there. The thought was there, but you couldn't buy much with that.

So I used to go down to the old St. Johns of Portland, if you're acquainted with Portland, west side of Portland, they had at that time what they called the bachelor's arena where all the old has-beens and the young kids that was willing to get in shape enough to go four or five rounds, they'd match you up someway.

Old Tex saw a kid, was the matchmaker, and he'd always make it. Well he knew, he'd look at, he'd see you move and the way you move around and he knew if he matched you so it wouldn't be just a knock out every time or something like that. And it brought the crowd, and that was really the way I made my spending money. Of course, I didn't fight under the name of McDade, because Ma would have had a fit. (Laughter)

BARBARA: So what did you go by?

JIM: Oh, about two or three, I think Oogie Krepps was one. I says, "Can't use my name." Well Tex says, "Hell, give him some kind of a name." And the ref would just make up a name. And Oakley, Roy, or LeRoy Oakley or something was another one. But anyway --- plug it in here (microphone).

DOROTHEA: No, no, goes in right here.

JIM: Oh.

DOROTHEA: Picks up your voice.

JIM: Oh, I see. Anyway, that's the way I made my spending money. And the good Lord takes care, and I've always believed this, and I believe it more as I get older. The good Lord takes care of kids, old folks, and fools. Now I pretty near went through all three of them, now. And I know at times, you know, confidence is a wonderful thing. Sometimes you can be overconfident. And I just never had no fear, I didn't give a damn if the guy had twenty fights, or thirty, or how many fights he had, it didn't make any difference, it was just another guy. I had, really, if I'd of had any sense, I would have been scared.

But, you know, if nobody --- you're kind of like a person that hasn't got all his marbles when you get too over confident. Because you have got sense enough to be scared. But I was about ten times better shape than most kids ever were. Because ever since I was ten or eleven years old, I was out in the field working just like the men. And I always, my dad always insisted, and he had a way of making you feel just like you was puny or insignificant if you couldn't do something, you know.

Then he'd laugh, and tell Maw something about it, you know. That damn kid he did so and so.

(Laughter) But it stood me in good stead, or in good shape. I didn't get my brains all knocked loose.

And I made some spending money. So I got, not extra popular, but I got so that when I, and I had bragged enough to know just because I had a little more spending money than some of the others, even though --- I'm not saying that I didn't have some bruises or weren't sore sometimes for several days. Because they ain't nobody that's ever boxed that isn't going to get hit once in a while. I don't care how good a shape you're in.

But anyway, why, I, of course, I had plenty of friends. But I had brains enough to know I had to stay in shape. So I never did, I used to envy some of those kids that would go on these parties, they'd tell me about. But then after I found out that they had a police raid or so, it really didn't bother me quite so bad.

And me and another boy that boarded with these folks my last year, when I went back to Portland, the second year I went to Boise. I met a kid over there by the name of Reagan, did some boxing. And we used to work out together. But I stayed with a fellow by the name of, and his wife, Mrs. Josephine and Joe Beebe. They used to be down here at the Sheldon Antelope Refuge, Joe Beebe. He was with Mr. Edling, (sp.?) I believe is the name of the guy that controlled the properties. And later Tom Dufurrena ---

DOROTHEA: Another Basque?

JIM: Yes. That had sheep at the same as my father and Bill Scott. Why, all the south end, and the north end of Humboldt County, so to speak here, was at the same time. Well, this Joe Beebe later, of course, it was before Mr. Dufurrena had got a hold of the Sheldon Antelope Refuge headquarters, now, that was the home ranch. Why, he went to Idaho and met Josephine Fogarty who was a schoolmate of my mothers, and her sister Nellie Sherman, when they went to Saint Alphonsus in Boise.

So, the second year of high school, why they, he had a ranch, a dairy, small bunch of sheep between Eagle and Star over west of Boise, as you come out of State Street. Right there east of where the road turns to go to Emmett really. So I, they had two kids, one my age, and one a little younger. Well, we used to drive into, from the ranch through Eagle into Boise, and the boy was going to high school and their daughter was going, the boy was going to grade school the last year. And the

daughter was going the same year I was, in the same classes, some of them, as I was.

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JIM: In the intervening time, and they, my dad had different friends, and my aunts and uncles and they would tell them where to go and so on. Well, Mom was, they was up here and hunting in the basin, in the Denio basin, and different places. And Mom was telling them, and some of them, and when they found out that these hunters were from Portland, and this one damn hunter, he said, "Why, that kid, I know him." "Oh," she says, "probably not. He went to school at so and so." "Yes, he did, I know him. I used to go and see him fight all the time." Well then, the cat was out of the bag. So no, I would have loved to stayed in Portland because I did meet some pretty good, well this natural born good egg people. And they would have helped me, and I think I could have, well went on to college and so on.

BARBARA: You didn't have the opportunity to go on to college then?

JIM: No. Well anyway, to changing me back to --- then she knew that I had been boxing up in Portland, see. But anyway, when I did it, at that time Columbia University had, was the same campus as Columbia University, Columbia Preparatory was the high school, and Columbia University was the college part. You had some of the same professors even. And well, like most of those schools, maybe half of them were actually Catholic. But I believe most of them were not. Because I know that several times there would be, kids would get kicked out of the other schools, oh for raising hell and no guidance at home, and they didn't even know who Mom and Pop was, or what a home or family or, you know, no idea about what life was, or being honest. And so they would take them, they come in there. And the president, at that time, would say now, to the parents --- because I made a little extra cash during the week sometimes cleaning up and helping and stuff like that, and applied it on my tuition. Said now your kids, when you ask us to take them, we're a private outfit, we don't take the guff that the public schools do from your kids. We want you as parents to be real sure you want to send your boy here. Now we have never ever turned anyone away, but we have had some youngsters change their ways considerable.

What they meant they'll change you all right. Some of those brothers, they don't take the vows that they're not to strike somebody, you know. But you still have a right to protect yourself. Some of them brothers was ex-all American athletes, boxing, wrestling, everything. And they could give you a lot of pointers. And thank god, like I say they did, or I would have got everything knocked loose.

But after that, why, when I graduated, I took some, the last year; hopefully I thought I was going on. Because I thought I wanted to be a doctor. Because my dad's folks, about half or two-thirds are in the medical field back east. And some of them that came out here, some of the nieces and nephews, and so on. But, so I took all full courses. So Mom didn't know it, but if in that school, really I don't --- when you don't have any study hall, and you had about seven periods during the day, you either get up early in the morning or you stay up at night to do your studying if you have to go to the library or any reference work. They were, I believe, at that time more than the high schools, one of the main difference was you had your --- they did it more like I believe that some of them inform me now that pretty much in college, you have your text, but they don't tell you so many pages of this, that and the other. You read the text, then they give you a test on it. And you take, when they're talking, why you took your notes, and they went along pretty much with the text. So if you really paid attention in class, and I got reprimanded several times in class because somebody --- I didn't have time to tell you the truth to read all those books when you had seven periods. I had to listen and listen close. And when I had somebody talking or something, why yes, I'd give them a whack and ask them to shut up. And about the third time, why, somebody got whopped. Because I never would have been able to get enough notes that I could have passed my tests.

But I do think it was ten times better than the public schools were at that time. Because, well especially when, when you went on to college the kids tell me that it was practically the same thing. You just had your text and you listened as they told you. And then sometimes they also had audios, or you could get it from some other kid and make it up if you were out or gone or something.

But I did take some extra classes in economics and sociology. And we had one old professor; I'll always love that guy as long as I live. Professor Paquette, he was the smartest man that I ever

knew. Even the college kids, and some of the other teachers, he taught economics and sociology, I took from him. But that guy, you could ask him --- he was even later, like Father Jim Fogarty who was a brother to this Beebe, Joe Beebe that was down here with his wife. He was even on some of the presidential, oh brain, when they're talking over highfaluting finances and ---

BARBARA: Advisors for things, uh huh.

JIM: And foreign relations and all that stuff. But actually that guy could tell you, and in detail, and he had a knack even as stupid as I was in some subjects, I usually --- some kids would read over once and they've got it. I'd have to read it at least two or three times. I could normally keep it all right after I got it read. But if you took seven full periods, now your last year with the anticipation that you were going to go to college, it was a good thing. I had to stay in shape to earn a little spending money on the weekends. And I worked at the school in between.

BARBARA: So, you were busy.

JIM: So, it kept me in shape, and it kept me out of mischief. And it kept me to where I was, like I say, I had more money than some of them, but I took my bumps to get it. But I did have brains enough not to go with some little gold digger or some oil can, I went with families that you knew were families. And when it was about time, if you didn't have sense enough, if you were down to have supper why Mother or Dad would say well, we want to have a little snack before bedtime, the wheel would turn and you knew it was about time for you to go home. (Laughter)

But really, I know there is a supreme being, because I know sometimes it's foolish to not admit that you are not just certain how you are going to handle certain problems. But you don't want to admit it, and sometimes you are too proud to admit it. That's when you get hurt, though. There is no need to that. But sometimes, I learned the hard way. But I sure believe there is a man upstairs there, now. Because there was times, and there was no reason I shouldn't have had my head knocked off. Because that same guy later beat somebody else that was, well could really move. So I know that he was taking care of McDade, because I didn't have all the training that they did. But I was in twice as much, better shape.

DOROTHEA: Well, how did you meet your wife?

JIM: Well, I was, we were right here. She was Lillian Lee Armstrong from Whidbey Island (Washington). And the fact that, she was quite athletic, could have went to the Olympics in track, but her parents didn't, thought she would get too much exposure for a person of her age and all. Any kid that is a good athlete has to have a little more brains and not be a knot head, you know, really, or you're not going to go very far. You find out that you're a big guy in a real small little bunch or something. But you're not --- But anyway, they wouldn't let her go, so that's how I think what our --- and she taught at Fields.

BARBARA: She was a schoolteacher?

JIM: Schoolteacher, yeah.

BARBARA: So, she was a young schoolteacher coming into Fields?

JIM: Yeah.

BARBARA: And you had come back to the ranch to help your folks?

JIM: And I was back to the ranch. My father passed away, and it was nip and tuck. Of course, we had a fellow here by the name of Joe Muniategui who had been with my folks since I was about a year and a half or two years old. He was just practically like a second dad to me. And if it hadn't of been for him, and him understanding like he was --- at times those people, which you'd never get anybody to do nowadays --- well, even after I was given a little bit more initiative, and Mom was trying to get out and get away from riding and stuff because, well, I don't think most women could last as long as a man on that kind of work. But she did it for years, and tended camp and so on when Dad had the sheep and so on.

But so we met and of course got a little serious, and I was 19. But I think I was a little, had a little more brains than most of them at 19. Anyway, we wanted to get married, and of course Mom thought well here he is, just a kid, wants to get married and leave the ranch, and she is not a ranch gal. Well, but like I say, I was a little bit head strong, and as long as I was paying for it, I thought I could do as I damn pleased.

So, that summer a neighbor down here, Bob Doan and myself, we finished, we got through haying, why, we went to Winnemucca and checked in on some of the mines, this was in the '30's. Got out

of high school in '32. So when the mines, as they would open up, we had about three or four applications in at several of the mines. Finally, of course, she was going to --- the wife, later, that we married on the Fourth of July, because they had a doings down in Reno and --- Winnemucca used to always have about three or four days of, a couple of days in August and then one or two days in September. And I --- on that occasion, why, I boxed down there, and I ended up with a good black eye. They stopped the fight, and I won the fight, alright, but ---

So I was still, but we hadn't gone to work yet, so our money was getting a little tight, so when they come around and some guy was on the card, he broke a wrist, or hand, or something, and some of them that I knew around Winnemucca, the Egoscues and all, and old school friends that knew my folks, says, "I think I can find, I'll find a guy." So unbeknownst to me and this young fellow down here, Doan, we was watching the other guys work out. First thing I know, and about four or five of them picked me up and shoved me in the ring, and Bob says, "Don't you want to eat?" I said, "What the hell is coming off?" "You got a chance, if you fight on the card." Why I said, "I want to talk to the matchmaker." (Laughter)

So when I talked to, what in the hell was his name, he was the postmaster at the time in Winnemucca post office. Glen Jones, he used to be Pacific Coast Light Weight Champ, or west of the Mississippi, or, you know. I mean, he really knew his onion. So I talked to him, I said, "Now look, I haven't, I don't know, and this is only about ten days before the fight, fights, but if you will guarantee and go around with us." So, we took him to three different restaurants, and to this place where we were boarding, out on the porch of this family, with canvas around it, this other boy and I. By god, we ate like hogs; we ate four and five times a day. (Laughter)

Anyway, when the fight, after the fight, I took right off on the bus and went down to the Christy, oh no, not Christy Hall, I forget the University there on Virginia in Reno. And when I got there, it was about oh three or four o'clock in the morning. I didn't realize I had, this hand was all puffed up, I didn't even wait to have it casted or anything see. This one here, and in here, you bust your hands up especially when you don't know --- sometimes you can't find the guy for a round or two. And if you have to watch how you hit him, you're about licked before you start. So you got to give him all

you got.

Anyway, I went down there and the matron come to the door. And I said, "I'd like to see this Miss Armstrong." "At this hour?" Oh she was a real, you know, matron all right type. I says, "Well, yes." "Well don't you think it is a little early to call?" "Yes." But I tried to explain the situation, and I didn't know for certain if I was going to come the next day or what, or I would have called and so on. So anyway, she let us in.

Well, that was the Fourth of July. Well, some more friends from, Bob (Doan) and Kenny Edmonds and some other folks from Winnemucca came down. So we all went to, oh Bower's Mansion, right south, going down toward Carson, that's where they were part of the families that did real well during the gold rush at Silver City there, and so on.

Well, the first thing they says, they got --- well, like I say, I never did care much for drinking because I saw some of my friends that I knew were better men than that, they get too much to drink and got hell beat out of them, just not knowing their capacity. So they says, "Why don't you kids get married?" Well, we figured we will, but we want to, wasn't going to get married, right then. We was going to wait until maybe six months or a year. Well, the first damn thing they said, "We'll pay this, and we'll pay that, and so on," you know how kids are.

BARBARA: You got talked into it then, didn't you?

JIM: Oh, I didn't take too much talking.

BARBARA: You were ready, huh?

JIM: And really, she was an outstanding girl, but she was never for a ranch or --- Her folks and most of her relatives are army people. And I had a chance, even then, or just before that, to go to Annapolis. She kind of pulled a little strings with her uncle. He was a major or a lieutenant colonel, or god knows what all. Badges enough to look like he had armor on, you know. And then at that time, you had to get your congressman or somebody, but I had --- They sent me the papers to fill out and so on. That's one thing I always did kind of hold against my mother, because she took those papers and took them to a lawyer and then she misplaced part of them on purpose, I know now. Because she, I wouldn't be here at the ranch. And I realize now, I think everything probably did

happen for the best. But I didn't get to go to West Point, or what all. But anyway, we were married for four years.

BARBARA: Did she continue to teach school while ---

JIM: Yeah.

BARBARA: Uh-huh.

JIM: And I was, of course, we were living here.

BARBARA: With your folks, with your mother?

JIM: With my mother and Joe Muniategui. And he was doing most, or part of the riding, and I would be doing the haying and the mechanizing and stuff like that most of the time. Of course, at times, you both ride and so on. Depend on what time of the year. But Mom always sort of resented her, I don't know, she was a real popular person and real outgoing person. You know, some people they could say hello, and if they're in a place five days, they'll know practically everybody within a quarter of a mile. But it isn't that they're trying to be, no hanky-panky, I mean, just good honest people. And Mom kind of resented, I guess, the fact that she was a popular person and they never could quite see, you know ---

Parents, I know even in my later life, after we separated, she met, she was teaching down to Leonard Creek, and there was a CC, big camp there at Quinn River. And there was a boy from New York, and of course, that was more, his folks had a military background. That was the background that she had been raised in. In fact, she was raised with her aunt and uncle; her uncle was this officer for all of his lifetime. And of course, they got to, they had movies and so on over there, and she taught this little rural school down at Leonard Creek.

Well, the kids want to go, well, they started going together, or going, coming over and getting the kids and so on. And of course, things just grew, and she was honest enough to say that, you know, they thought it was over. Okay, fine. And yet, I have more respect for her than I do a lot of other people. And she is very successful; she taught school for years and retired up in Seattle. She bought and sold homes, and she had a brother who was in the contracting business, so when he wasn't busy building houses or excavating for someone, why she'd buy these old houses and then

she would do a lot of the painting and minor fixing up herself and done real well. She married some architect by the name of, later --- She left this army officer because he was a, well a woman chaser, or skirt chaser, whatever you want to call it. She went down to visit him once, and there was another supposed to be Mrs. so and so there. Which I, right at the time it kind of, you know, it kind of don't boost your ego any.

But I told her at the time, because it was about a year before we got completely settled up for a few things that she had worked pretty hard on. And at that time, why, we worked, we were down on the flat between here and Andrews. We were, took a desert land, or bought what was the Guy Ollgard properties, and we bought the place. Then later, why, we took a desert land entry, but that was later. Well, after she married him, why then, they divorced, and she married this McGrath. Well I -

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BARBARA: You did not have children with Lee, did you?

JIM: No, she had one miscarriage. And then later, she did have one daughter by this McGrath. I never did see Mr. McGrath. But Mom and I was, after Mother had had pneumonia and was kind of recuperating, and I had had pneumonia myself about ... it was, why we went on a trip. And part of our relation, Mother's half-sisters live in Seattle. Mom was going to visit an older friend that she used to leave me with when they were trailing the sheep, or when I was real young, to the railroad to deliver the lambs and all. Mrs. Rounsevelle, they used to have the, Mrs. Batherick, they used to, they had a ranch down here, and later had what used to be called the Grand Hotel in Burns. And it was upstairs, and Schroeder had a meat market downstairs, one of the Schroeder's. Well, it's in the same, about where J. C. Penney's was, used to be. And then there was the Tijuana card room, or beer bar, down in the bottom, too.

Anyway, but then when I got this brain fever in the '40's, why, I had the strep throat, and when I got over that, then they tried to find out what it was, well, we went to St. Alphonsus. Well, that's where I met my five kids' mother, Dorothy Blinn. She was the second highest, at that time, that ever graduated from the State of Idaho, surgery nurse. And then later, you may have known her, she was, worked in the Burns Hospital from '55 until oh, a year or two ago. Married Allan Voegtly.

Then he passed away, and I guess that --- didn't he pass away?

DOROTHEA: Uh-huh.

BARBARA: About a year ago.

JIM: And his mother, she passed away quite awhile back, ... His folks used to work for, before his dad went into the plumbing business, years ago when they had Trout Creek down here. Now it's divided up into about four, four different ranches. But it was all one, that's when McDade and Biggs had it.

BARBARA: Okay, you say you had five children with Dorothy?

JIM: Yeah.

BARBARA: Can you tell us their names?

JIM: James Michael McDade, he was born December 12th, '45. And Patrick Joseph was born February 15th, '47. And Kathy, who married Billy Russell, who worked at the Chevron Station there, across from Burns Garage, and they're over in the Boise area now. She was born in, June 1st, about '50. And Anne Lorraine was born July 1st in '51. They were thirteen months apart. Then Colleen Therese is married to little Davey Smerski in Burns. I think she was, well, I mean, she was one person that even as a kid, before the family broke up in the '60's, why, she knew, she could see through the in-laws better than her own mother. And I think later, that some of them in Burns they --- well, it was twelve or fifteen years, well anyway, to get back to Colleen, she was born, well let's see, we thought it was going to be April 1st, but it was the 4th of April in '53. And of course, they have four kids now, I believe, her and David. But she wouldn't even, when the family broke up, little Colleen, why, she went with Cranes was their name I believe, I never did meet the people. Because there was, well frankly, I was advised to get out of Burns because if I didn't I'd probably be locked up or somebody else wouldn't be there. Funny things happen in life and in marriages. But a lot of people ain't like you think they are, they have dual personalities.

BARBARA: Well, you never know about a person unless you live with them, right?

JIM: No, and they can change then, whether they want to or not.

BARBARA: That's true.

JIM: But I know, nobody is perfect, and I got sense enough to know I never was either. But there is some people don't --- well Mrs., the kids' mother's mother, Mrs. Blinn, she was, well ---

BARBARA: You weren't working on the ranch then?

JIM: I had Joe here at the time. And in rush times, I took a contract to haul mail and freight. All right, I knew, but we knew when we took the contract, when we talked it over, that you wasn't going to be home as much as you were on a ranch. And you weren't going to be able to stop and talk things over every time. But like she said, it's a paid vacation away from the kids if you can nurse. You feel that way about your kids? No, I'm a little bit ...

BARBARA: Well, that's good.

JIM: You know, you always, or normally, sent a card.

BARBARA: Not a complete waste.

JIM: But you didn't get to go to all the graduations, and all this and that and the other. And take them, and go with them, and places and such. And when I did sent letters, and cards, and stuff, of course, you had to pay support, and I did.

BARBARA: Then did you quit your mail run and come back to your ranch here then, did you?

JIM: Yeah, finally. In about '64, I had an understanding with the folks. And then I, if you folks have got kids, and you're trying to think you're going to pass something on to them, you don't get like my folks were. They were in their 70's or 80's then, and you know, you have a tendency, they actually thought they were going to live another seventy years. Dammit, really!

BARBARA: They weren't going to give it up, were they?

JIM: No, they want to still hang on. When you get so you can't do the work yourself, it's time to let go.

BARBARA: Right.

JIM: Because you're in the way.

BARBARA: Yeah.

JIM: Just like with Dolly's, we were married in --- well, I'll get to that later. But anyway, why we, Mom got Dolly to --- Burke Holloway lived, a family that lived down on Cottonwood across from

Denio.

DOROTHEA: Burke, or ---

JIM: Burke Holloway. He married Dolly, I don't know just when, they had four kids. And Burke -- she worked down here at the Colony Ranch for the --- oh, I can't think of the name of the people. They had the Colony Ranch that Ralph Grove used to have. She worked for them for several years, then she and Burke got married and they had five kids. Burke taught them all how to work, even if he did maybe have a few little faults.

DOROTHEA: They had five kids?

JIM: Yeah. Four.

DOROTHEA: Four kids.

JIM: Four, yeah. And then when he did pass away, he had, she --- well Burke was a heck of a good guy, but he had some brothers that, Burke ended up doing most of the work and they wanted to be the bosses or the head of the contracting outfit and so on. And Burke was not the youngest, but he was next to the youngest. But he was a good, a good all around, just a natural born good egg. He just, good people. But when you got relatives like that, and you have to finally end up, he ended up with what they had, but it took him until he got too late in life. And raising those kids, why you just didn't give me no time to get a little slack there, and get a little ---

BARBARA: A little enjoyment from what you work hard for.

JIM: Yes. So when he passed away, why it was kind of a lingering deal where the nerves and feeling and paralysis and such. Well, then Dolly ran the school bus here in the valley, did the janitor work, worked in the cafes, worked in the store twelve or fifteen years.

Finally, in '83 Mom was fairly poorly for several years before that and they got so we were gone more than we were here. Well, we used to have fields up and down this canyon, all of it. Now it's growing back to where you wouldn't even know there ever was a field there, or raise grain, or rye hay, or whatever. But Mom finally got her to come up and cook breakfast and supper, and when she was working at the store down here. And she actually had three jobs, some of them not every day. But the janitor at the school house, and then worked the motel, and the store, and the

restaurant, and the gas pumps, and all at that. And then, she run the school bus part-time. Because she had to get the kids through school. They weren't all through high school yet. And, well, she just had to work too damn hard, that's all, on cement floors and all.

And naturally, of course, she'd always as a kid loved animals. She worked at the stables. Her father was quite a drinker, from what she and the rest of the family say. Every time he did get a job and make any money, or make a deal that made sense, why, he'd have to gamble or party or drink it up. So the kids got, she was about thirteen when she struck out on her own. And since she was about thirteen, why, Dolly has worked at stables, or riding academies, and things like that. Well, a kid thirteen years old, I don't care who your parents or background, or prodigy or pedigree is, you're going to get hurt because you're just not big enough to do some things, and strong enough.

So she was with Mom from '83, and she would drive back and forth from here and that way Mom had somebody to, you know, there is very few men can --- you can go in and get a meal, or you can cook or make a bed or something, it just isn't like a woman would do it.

BARBARA: Just doesn't quite have that tender loving care that goes along with it.

JIM: No, and you don't, when it comes to cooking, why, hell, the staples and the mulligan and some rice and raisins, and hell, if you don't like that, you're not hungry. Well, if you're working, well by god that's all you needed, some fruit if you, you know. But, so we got acquainted. And then finally, when Mother passed away, about, she would have been 92 in about three more days. I'd come home; I'd been with her for, oh, six or eight months. We had, she was in the nursing home there in Lakeview, south end of the hospital. Had two other R.N.'s, and I would stay with her from eleven at night until seven in the morning. Because if your parents are still alive, I hope you don't go through what she did. Because they get so that so when, now they have a tendency with all these new medications and so on, that they can keep people alive when they're not alive.

BARBARA: But they're not really, they're existing.

JIM: And it's nothing but a waste of money and time, and sorrow, and a complete waste for other people. For months and months, and they get so they're not the person that was once your parent.

BARBARA: Yeah, I know.

JIM: Not a bit. People would come to visit her, and honest to god, for fifteen or twenty minutes they would be, she'd talk about old times, and just click, click, click. Five minutes after they was gone, she'd be off talking to something that would happen twenty or forty years ago. Tell me that somebody come to see her that day. And hell, she'd hadn't seen in twenty years, or they'd have been passed away. She got so she couldn't eat, or wouldn't eat. We'd take the same food right out in the hall, smash it up, put it in a tube, and put it through her nose, and she couldn't even, wouldn't even make her burp. But if you forced her to eat it, she'd say she couldn't eat it. And then get so that, well, it's hard, and I, and the good Lord, and another reason I know there is a supreme being, there is something up there.

Some of the things, like I say, they thought they were both going to live before I come back here, because I, after I separated from Dorothy Blinn, why I went to the Tech Center in Portland and I took welding and shop work and stuff. And I got licensed by the state, because I don't care how well, I had always kind of followed welding here, and I could do most of it. Had no trouble at all passing the test. But to be certified by the state so that a contractor could hire you to work on public buildings, you have to have that state certification card. And to be in a position to where I could draw a wage that I could afford to pay support. Those kids were still going to school, and so on, and then giving them a little extra after they starting to getting married and so on, trying to help. When --- it's, well, you just ---

BARBARA: So, where did you work then?

JIM: I worked, went to Reno, and worked in that area a while. And then there was a fellow down here at Orovada that made veterinary wheelchairs, Ted and Margaret Barber. Maybe you knew him. He was one of the pilots among pilots, really. He used to hold some records for the most hours, trouble-free and all that. And he, so I worked with them making those wheelchairs for better than a year or so.

DOROTHEA: What do you mean, veterinary wheelchairs?

JIM: I made them so that you can put them right over, the four wheels, you get them from the wrecking yards, and you make the yokes and the spindles and all ---

TAPE 2 - SIDE C

JIM: ... we'd buy them, because you could go out to a ranch, you could run this unit right over the animal, back them right up, and it was a cinch that went under the stomach, and then a hip clamp that he patented. We changed it to where it fit around instead of being plumb straight, so that it would fit the cow better, or the animal, without bruising them. And you had these pulleys up on top, and with these cinches, you put the animal right in there, and it had four wheels, and that way why you could take the animal wherever you wanted it. Or if you wanted to raise it up on its legs, if it had a broken leg or something, or otherwise, you had to have it on a tripod or something. So for over a year, why, we made those. He sold them to every vet, and several he'd send away to different veterinarians.

His daughter here, when Joe and I would be down at Trout Creek haying, his daughter, oh my god, I can't even think of her name --- Well, anyway, she helped the wife up here, babysat the kids. Too, like I say, they were maybe fairly close together, but not trying to get ... and just realistic.

DOROTHEA: Just a minute, Jim. Got to unhook you. ... (Someone at the door.)

BARBARA: There you go.

JIM: Equilibrium wasn't what it should be, and she had a good excuse then. So we got to going together, Dolly and I, and then we got married in '87, October 27. And thank God, I mean, I think I'm lucky because I really appreciated Burke and I liked him, and I knew them both before they were married and all that. He was a good guy, but he just couldn't live long enough with the family that he had to keep buying out to get, finally, before he owned the place, see. And then he lost his health and ---

BARBARA: I was going to ask you about the different places that your mom and you had acquired over the years. After your dad died, your mother married Mr. Calderwood?

JIM: Ed Calderwood.

BARBARA: Uh-huh.

JIM: From Lake County. They were one of the old early settlers in Warner Valley, Fort Bidwell.

His father fought in some of those Indian Wars. And somewhere, I might have given that to my stepfather's nephew George, he is the youngest of the second generation Calderwood's. The Calderwood's, there was several brothers, Nels, Harry, Tom, and Frank, and Ed. They all lived and had a place up; he was one of the last ones that had properties on Hart Mountain before the government, to buy out. Not trying to pick on the government, but sometimes when they buy properties, I don't know why they want to --- it was a nice setup, yeah. I'd say about six, eight hundred head spread, and where it was located, it was kind of a natural lake bed in the south end, south of the old Lyons Ranch, which is the Hart Mountain Refuge Headquarters, about 20 miles, 18 or 20. And he would just hay there, and it was some of the highest part of Hart Mountain, too. The winters were quite severe; you couldn't get in and out sometimes for two or three months unless you went a horseback, when her and Ed were first married.

Then they came about to the thirty year, why Ed, well I'm getting ahead of myself. Ed kept buying the other brother's places out as they passed away and as they retired, so he had a pretty nice spread over there. Well, when the government went to buy it, you know, just the spread as six to eight hundred head, you know, if the government couldn't, if they couldn't buy that and pay for it all at once, there is something wrong.

BARBARA: Right.

JIM: We all better worry. And that was way back, years ago. Well, when they said they wanted to buy half of it, of course, Ed was kind of an independent person, and he was the one brother that was kind of like Burke in that respect, Holloway. He ended up on the little, low end of the stick and doing most of the work sometimes. The others were older, and they was supposed to know more. But the others were older and didn't know more, and they drank more. And he ended up with what they had, because some of them was going to lose it and couldn't even pay the damn taxes, one or two of them. I mean there is good and bad in every family, if you go back far enough, and it's the truth.

But anyway, when he tried to sell that, and he was quite independent and sometimes when, and movement of stock, you don't feel like that you should have to check with some new manager just

because he is --- I mean the first job the guy ever had was this one fellow by the name of Branson. A little guy, he remind you of a little Spitz, a Mexican dog all yapping, no go, and he didn't know how to fix, he couldn't even fix nothing, he couldn't even shut a gate right. Don't come here telling me I can't do this, and I can't do that. I own this ground; you don't even know where your ground is that you're supposed to manage. And of course, it made him mad. "Nobody talks to me that way." "Well by god, I'm talking that way to you."

And so, when it come to selling the ranch, why, he was the one that we found out later, why that, to make everything the hard way. So they had to threaten to go to a lawsuit. Well, the government had sense enough to realize, you know, the lawyer, it's just a waste of money there. They finally found that money to pay for it all at once. He wanted it all if he was going to sell out, because he wanted to buy a place over here or somewhere.

BARBARA: Up next to what the other property your mother had.

JIM: Yes.

BARBARA: So you could run things without going here, there, and everywhere.

JIM: Yes, and they had to go to the foot of the Riffle Trail where the younger brother was that, Frank Calderwood place, northeast of Adel, southeast of Plush. And they had to go back and forth horseback with, in the wintertime, for a couple, three months sometimes, because you couldn't get in and out, even with four-wheel drive. And he had sleds and stuff like that to feed. But he was, I think an exceptional person. I've seen nobody yet in my 77 years in just a few days, that could handle and work alone and accomplish as much as that guy. But he could part out cattle, and he was never running, and jamming, and poking, and jerking, and kicking, and his horse would never be lathered up. When he got through, you didn't have all your fences tore down, or half of them mixed up and all that stuff.

When he come over to this country, he always had, because up there in them hills when you rode down to Plush or Adel it was quite a ride, twenty, thirty miles anyway and rockier than all jiminy. So his saddle horses were as big as some people's workhorses. When he first come over here from Hart Mountain, why, some of them kind of snickered. "What are you going to do with that work

horse, Ed?" He never said a word, just kind of smiled. "Oh, he might surprise you." Just always kind of liked the horse. When I had a horse, I don't like to have to change every day or two, if I've got some riding to do.

It took about one year on Trout Creek Mountain around here, when they'd go to ride in the fall. The others we'd take three or four horses if they had any brains. Ed took two. And when he come in, got through riding, their horse would look like snakes, and Ed's horses was still ready to go. But he had a horse. If he wanted to lasso a bull, he could lasso and hold him. Well, them other guys they'd yank them all over the damn countryside, they couldn't even do it, you know. And, no Mom was the luckiest person in the world to have married him.

BARBARA: Did you get along with Mr. Calderwood?

JIM: Oh, he was a gem, god, yes.

BARBARA: And so ---

JIM: He was a person, though, that sometimes, he used to almost think well if it would do any good, I'd cuss you out. But I'd known a little better than that from my dad, because he was kind of quiet. But you didn't cuss him very much. You might just say, "Well, what was that again?" And about that time somebody was on the back of their lap. "Now, what was that again?" And, you know, I know it's, you shouldn't be that aggressive and so on, but ---

BARBARA: So, when did he pass away?

JIM: Ed passed away March, by god I can't remember the exact day, of '69. I can't tell you his exact age either.

BARBARA: Well, how many ranches did your ---

JIM: But they bought, after we sold the --- getting back to when they, after they sold the ranch at Hart Mountain, the holdings there, and thank god for small favors. We always kept the books separate on this setup, always, from anything that Mother and Ed bought over there. Because later on it's, you'd be surprised how it simplified, you know, when people pass away, and their heirs. The ones that never even had time to come see him and so on, all of a sudden, why, dear Ed, and oh boy, they didn't even know where he lived or where he went to school, or a damn thing. But ---

BARBARA: He thought he ought to have a piece of it is why.

JIM: Oh, yes. Of course, every kin, you know. But no, he was a gem. I mean he ---

BARBARA: Had he ever been married before he married your mother?

JIM: No. A funny thing, he and a fellow called, oh don't ever lose all your memory --- well, he was a little short fellow, I can't recall his name, but years and years ago when Mom was at Andrews before she married Dad, she was working in the store for Uncle John, or helping there. Because John Smyth and her stepfather George Smyth was down here at that time, and John was up, yeah, they had Fields and Andrews and the stores, post offices, and so on. I think they had a bar at Andrews that they leased out.

BARBARA: A hotel?

JIM: And a hotel and the bar they leased out most all the time. But anyway, after Mom and Ed sold the place, or Ed sold the place over there, Mom had sense enough to, she learned some things kind of the hard way after my father passed away in '30, May of '35. I was about, I was my first year of high school, the winter of '32, '33, excuse me, '33, he passed away, May 25th. Any woman, when you, you know, there are things you might have better than average intelligence, but there is a lot of things about wheeling and dealing that people will come in and they will take advantage of a widow woman and a punk kid.

BARBARA: Will try probably.

JIM: And by god, you kind of learn the hard way, but by god it improves your memory, at least at the time. And I think in all, in all really, some of those things we learned earlier when I was real small, damn sure helped me later on in life.

But when they sold the place they traveled, they went down into Nevada, and they looked at several different places. But they was, Ed, she left it up to Ed because it was the money come from that place. And there was several, he made offers on, but he didn't like the range setup, or some of the neighbors, and the way that the range was being handled at that particular time by the Taylor Grazing, or the Bureau of Land Management.

Finally, come back and Al and Vivian Wallace had the Williams place up Trout Creek. And Al

was pretty close to 80, and he was, couldn't do the work himself, and he couldn't get anybody that he could get along with, really, because he still thought that anybody else could do as much as he used to. He says, hell, I was only one old man, and they couldn't, so normally they kept having new help, and that's kind of bad for anybody in any occupation. If your help is always new, why ---

BARBARA: You never get anything done.

JIM: No, uh-huh, no way. So they bought the place, Al and Vivian --- Mrs. Wallace was raised around Lawen. I've got her, I can't think of her --- Hendricks, Hendrickson. Her father was the first teacher at Lawen. And then she taught at least 27 to 30 years in Harney County herself. But she taught school at Red Point School down here between Fields and Andrews. When she met Al, Al was a good guy but he might go six months, he might go a year, he might even go a year and a half a few times. But then, when he'd sell his stuff in the fall, he'd settle up with the bank and buy supplies for six months or so, then he'd party.

BARBARA: Go on a binge?

JIM: Yes, honest to god. Good guy, but he just ---

BARBARA: Just had to do it.

JIM: No brains. And so I don't know, it was some school doings, program, and the people that Al had working for him at the time, they said well come on Al, we'll go down to the school Christmas, or end of school or something, and watch their school program and then dance later at Denio. Well, he, kind of probably thirsty too, figured --- anyway he did, and that's they, him and Mrs. Wallace met. And after, it wasn't about a year, two years maybe, why hell he had all his bills paid up, and he had a little savings, too. And they had the place for a few years and then this was --- let me get back to Ed, my stepfather, and Mom. So they worked out a deal, and Al was quite an old fellow.

They even helped, they'd go around, and because they, Vivian hadn't had it all that easy as a youngster herself, getting her education. They'd go to schools, and they'd find out, some of them locally, that some kid wanted to go and had the aptitude, and yet he just didn't want to leave home and his folks couldn't afford it and so on. And there was at least three youngsters that I knew of, I have no reason to even know, but later we visited them after they sold out and moved to Portland.

And she told us about some of them. And they were the kind of people that appreciated being treated right, because they'd had hard times. And they helped about three kids, one of them was through medical school, and the other one, I don't know, I think teaching, educational field. I forget what the other one was. And all they had was that kid's word that he would pay them back as soon as he could, as fast as he could. They never lost a damn dime, never lost a dime.

And some of those people, after Al got to Portland, well you lose your equilibrium and your body don't even work right and so on, why it got quite expensive. They did buy some real estate, and he could when he felt like it, they would patch them up, paint them up, and sell them, and by god they made it pretty good, really did good. And he passed away, old Al on his, I believe his 85th birthday. Come in from outside, he was fixing a gate or something. We had been up there to visit them just about a week before that. And he, apparently, you know, he could go out and work a couple hours without being to give out, or three or four, depending on what he was doing. And he liked to improve things. And they really enjoyed life. I mean hell they'd go to --- Mrs. Gray, she married a fellow by the name of Gray, and he passed away when they had the flu epidemic in '17, or something I believe.

BARBARA: '18.

JIM: '18, or whatever. Anyway, why they was just like a couple of kids. They'd go on trips; they did have one or two little wrecks, because I think they went to sleep. But they never hurt them bad or anything. But then the folks bought the place up to Trout Creek. Then as county lands, but of course in the '40's, now maybe it was before the '40's when Bill Billings passed away, there was a place down here on the south branch, I can't think of the loan outfit or the banks that had it. But Mom had a chance to buy that, so we bought that. Well, that put up about 480 ton of hay if you weren't too lazy to put it up. Most of them since then, lucky to get 400 with all their brand new machinery. It's a pity. They're good on a horse, they're good, but they can't, as far as putting a shovel on their damn back and going and watching the water, why set it and leave it for a week or ten days at a time, and you think you're a rancher because you've got some livestock and that you chase them on the hill all the time. Hell, they don't get half the potential of what the property would

do. It did it, we got the records of when we sold the hay before we could eat it all ourselves, with what stock we had and so on. I know it is easy to find fault, but I hate to see people --- they could save themselves years.

BARBARA: So did your mother and Mr. Calderwood just run cattle then? Did they not run sheep, too?

JIM: No, they just had cattle.

BARBARA: Just had cattle. And you have always just had cattle yourself?

JIM: Yeah.

BARBARA: Did you ever raise sheep yourself?

JIM: No. I was real small, I'd ride on the back of the --- that's another thing I'd never do, and it's the most torture any human can go through. Them old, old saddles, when nobody used to have the time or the inclination to oil them or take care of them, put your kid on the back of that damn saddle, and when you're on Steens Mountain or some of these mountains around here, straight up and straight down, zigzag trail all day long, that's the damndest torture that you could put a kid or anybody else through, behind a saddle. Not even put a sack on it.

BARBARA: Ow!

JIM: So when I got some odd ideas, you see where I got some of them. Damn it, I'll never forget that. But then there was different county lands that become available there north of Trout Creek, between there and Alvord Ranch. As they become, people back east used to buy up these isolated tracts, you know. And some of them come out and they'd want the folks to go out there, and Ed would go out with them. And sometimes he could --- but in the sand dunes there, some of it, a small portion of it, about twenty percent, or thirty anyway, but sand dunes, part of it --- why but you had to buy those if you bought the other, you know. Why they, you know, they thought those things was worth so much when they get them out there and walk, and especially if it was the right time of the year, why, they was willing to sell the damn thing for a reasonable price. And they bought several thousand acres.

BARBARA: How many acres would you guess they finally ended up with?

JIM: Oh, they had ---

BARBARA: By the time they got through?

JIM: At the end, with what Mother and my dad had here, plus what Ed bought, I had about 15,000.

BARBARA: And so how many cattle could you run at a good time?

JIM: A long time? Oh, at least close to a thousand, eight hundred to a thousand. You know, I mean on a ranch in the fall of the year you'll size the situation, you feed up and this and that and the other.

BARBARA: Make the adjustments there.

JIM: And maybe the prices varied, or you wanted to buy something why you'd sell down or something. Well, I'd say the majority of the time we ran closer to maybe eight hundred. Because that way, then if you left yourself a little slack and you'd always have some carry over hay.

BARBARA: And so how many people would you have to have working for you to keep all of this land taken care of, and cattle taken care of?

JIM: Well, outside of haying, why normally you wouldn't have more than one hand. But by god you worked.

BARBARA: You had to work hard to do it.

JIM: And you didn't sleep until 10 o'clock in the morning and put your horse in a car, drive sixty miles, work two hours, and bring the horse back to the damn barn and keep him there until 10 o'clock that night before you get home, or 12, like they do now. The same ranches that paid then, they're not going to pay enough for them people to ever pay for them. I'll guarantee it.

BARBARA: Did you have the Borax Lake at one time, did you own that?

JIM: The gentleman that owned that was Mother's sister Nellie Sherman, or Nellie Ollgard. My cousin Pat lives up here where the reflector is, right by the road if you go back, or come down by, from Andrews. Mr. Ollgard was a chemist from down in California. And years, in the early 1800's he had a contract, or bought it, got a hold of this because he was a chemist. They partially refined the surface earth, or the crust that is down at that Borax if you've ever been to a place like that it's kind of different. But they had crews of Chinamen, and the Chinamen used to have on the hot lake

little huts that they lived in. They'd go around and they had these, kind of like carrier boxes that they'd carry this stuff in. Then they'd put it in these big long tanks. Oh, they were 30, 40 foot long, and about 6 or 8 foot across, and they were fired under these with wood mostly, that's all they had. But they'd partially refine it, soda, borax, boron, and I don't know what, twenty some different chemicals and so on when it was --- you got to halfway take an analysis on it.

But then, they called it the Rose Valley Borax Works, I believe. But that's in the Oregon Historical Society already I think, when, before Mr. Ollgard passed away.

My cousin was, I'll say unfortunate, she had four or five marriages, and every time she'd just about get a nice home or something she could call her own, and savings built up, why poof! There would be a separation, or he'd take off, and then there was a settlement, why, she ended up working for wages again, and so on. Finally, she did, after several altercations ... why --- Mr., her grandfather had more brains than a good many people give him credit for. He did love his grandkids.

So he came to Mom, I was in my teens, 18 I guess, or 19, before I was ever married. He said, "Mrs. McDade I want you to do me a favor." Well, she said, "What is it?" "I want you to do, and it concerns some of your relatives." She said, "No, Mr. Ollgard, I do not choose to have any more dealings with my relatives." It's ten times harder to deal with relatives than it is anybody else.

Because they haven't got brains enough, and they think, well, you're a relative you can go without because you're going to sell it, you don't need it anymore. When you sell what your income business is, or what you made your income from, what the hell do you expect you to live on?

Well, we went through some of that, but anyway finally the old man made the, second time he come up he said, "I want to give you an undivided half interest in the Borax." "Why? Give it to your relatives." "Mrs. McDade," he said, was her name at the time, "if I do that, Pat will never have a home. The girl is willing to work like a dog, sometimes two or three jobs."

Just kind of like Dolly in that respect, in order to get everything paid up. And just before Burke passed away, why, because the last year he couldn't hardly do anything. Why she had everything paid up, but she didn't do it easy. She worked three jobs, you don't get more than five, six hours of sleep, you know. You don't find many people like that.

But anyway, why finally Mom says, "Well, okay." He says, "If you don't, the next guy she thinks the world rises and sets in will take her and she's not getting any younger and she won't have a damn thing when she gets old enough to where she can't work. All I want you to do is to not let her sell it, or let anybody else talk her into selling it. Even, until at least her mother passes away."

Well, at the time we never thought of things like that. But the old man knew more than we did. Her mother did pass away, and after that, why, then the Nature Conservancy and some of these other people that, things that are odd or different, they want to buy. Well, they made an offer; about half of course, just like anybody trading horses. And I said, well, my mother was gone too, then. "Pat, it's up to you, it's your grandparent, your father's father, and he did it this way because he didn't" --- we told her then what the deal was. And he said he didn't want you to not, he wanted you to have it, and he didn't think that you could, would maybe end up with it if you had, if your luck didn't change. (Laughter)

Well, later she did marry a guy that was a paint expert or specialist. Worked up at Bremerton, and he was a peach of a guy. He'd been in the service and had one, part of one limb, Gaylen Frazier. And you never knew until the day he died, or afterwards, that he had a purple heart, and oh god, I don't know, a whole lot of medals. But he was never a guy that ever mentioned that stuff. If you asked him he might say something, but, you know --- But he was just a good understanding guy, and so on.

But to get back to the Borax, why they wanted to get it for about half of what, you know, accessed valuation and all that stuff. Well, if it meant that much to you, and they're trying to tell you when you can raise stock, and put them on, stock on it, when you can't, and when they'd appreciate it if you didn't. And the damn bother of tourists coming and leaving the gates open. Put up signs, they tear the signs down and roast their wieners and marshmallows, and swim in the hot lake, and leave part of the sign; it gives you a pain where you can't scratch. And it makes you mad, and if you stay there you, sooner or later you're going to, saturation point, even a sponge, somebody is going to get hurt, that's all. Because it's deeded ground, it's private ground, it's yours. You run it, and your stock run it, and your folks run stock there, because they had it. And we leased it from Pat, and paid her

so much for it for years, for the grazing privileges, to pasture on it. We quit putting up any hay on it, and just pastured in the fall.

Because we joined the, on the Guy Ollgard, or uncle's place, to join it, and it worked nice in the fall. Well finally, they got to experimenting around for a cheaper source of energy, geothermal. Then the Nature Conservancy, well god knows BLM, Park Service, all of them, they got their heads together and she did sell it for a halfway reasonable, decent price. At least she got something out of it, she can put on interest and have something besides social security and so on.

And then, well after Dolly and, in '90 --- we were married in '87, and the people that we'd had up at Trout Creek on the ranch, the Crumps, and you know most of the Bennett's in Burns probably, or know of them, one of the Bennett's, Ellis Bennett and Mr. Crump that had the Serrano Point Ranch due east of Andrews for years, he was from Lakeview and an old time friend and went to school with Ed, the grade school down to Fort Bidwell and Warner Valley.

So, they sold the ranch here, because the kids, I know you can love your wife and kids and so on, but I don't think, really don't, majority of the time your wife and your kids when they aren't out of high school yet, should not tell you how to run your business. Because they're the noise, but they're not there when you're doing the sweating and the losing the sleep, and wasting the energy. Well anyway, Leland didn't want to argue with nobody, he was big enough he could go bear hunting on a match. Weighed about 260 when he was younger, and not a bit of fat on him. All he had to do is get a hold of you and you was done. I don't give a damn how foxy or how scientific you thought you were, because you wasn't going to get gone, or you wasn't going to get loose. And he could hurt you. And he did when he was a younger fellow at Lakeview. Two or three of those guys at Lake County that were supposed to be pugilists, they'd been pretty lucky, because they knew a little more than just lead with your chin and just keep walking straight in.

And by god, they was, they got to instigating, said I wonder if that guy is waspy enough he could take that Crump. I'd kind of liked to see Leland extended to see just how long he could last. Well he never dissipated, he never smoked, he raised a lot of hell. He was nothing but muscle and common sense. So, they talked him into, this one guy he even fought a little professionally but he

was way past his prime. And being a guy like some of them are, when they retire, they got to party and get kind of real soft, and anything but in good shape.

Well, it was, they were at a shearing, Leland's folks had some sheep for a while, I think. And they got, the way they worked it there was an argument come up about these sheep, whose it was. They were dividing their sheep; they were dissolving the partnership, that was it. Well Leland says, "I know it is my sheep. It was a leppy, it come off of a leppy that Mary saved, but I'll give you the damn sheep." And this fellow just wouldn't let it lay. Says, "Oh, you're trying to call me a liar, and this and that." "No, I'm not calling anybody a liar, I just told you that I know it's my sheep, and it is." And he kept, the fellow kept after him. And finally, why, he couldn't get Leland to swing on him, so he swung on Leland. Well, he hit Leland, and he bloodied his lip and nose a little bit or something. And it looked like, my god that the king of the roost was going to get dethroned.

(Laughter)

Finally, he got a little winded, and Leland was just getting warmed up. So hell, he glommed on to him and he threw him down, it was right close to a little stream that run through this shearing corral. Well, Leland says, "Now, I've tried to be a man, I've tried to be patient, I've tried to talk to you, but you don't have anybody to talk. I should just drown you, damn you." And they said he held him with an arm lock across, to this arm see, so he couldn't get up. You could hit him with this anytime you wanted to. But he was, "I should just drown you, damn you, to cool you off. Maybe you'll have some brains." And he had him a coughing till he couldn't hardly breathe.

(Laughter) Said he looked up and, "Ah, me Jesus, take me wife and me kid, take me wife and my kids." Leland give him a shove and he said, "Ah, go to hell." (Laughter)

But they were up Trout Creek for twenty years or better. Then Johnny, their youngest son, he went to the service and gone a little while. And when he come back, he slowly took over and the folks and Mary and Leland lived there awhile. Then when his health got worse, and hers, they went to Boise, and south of the new St. Alphs Hospital. There was a, well all of them are retired, they ... a block or two there. And Danny married, Johnny's older brother, worked, or married the Geer girl in Burns.

DOROTHEA: Ellen.

JIM: Yeah. And they had the one girl, played violin, I guess, when she was real small, quite apt. And then later Johnny, or Danny, after they separated Danny married a nurse from around Portland area. And he has followed the railroad work, and been boss and foreman and so on. See, he learned that from Ellen's father, Mr. Geer. Because that was, ran from Seneca to Burns for years and years and years.

So then, after Johnny's folks went to Boise, we were fortunate enough, and that's one guy too that was pretty much like his dad. Oh, in his younger days, why, he didn't know his capacity once in a while. But it wouldn't happen maybe more than once a year or two. The rest of the time why --- he worked harder there than he would if he owned it. Honest to god. And I begged him to stay on it after he got older and he, and he was so --- well he was just, he was the type of person about twice as strong as most men. And hell, most people will get a pole or a pulley or a come-along or something, why, hell he'd just freeze on to the damn thing ---

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JIM: God, the time flies, six years. Well, he kept saying, "Jim, I can't handle the work." "Johnny, we'll get somebody to help you." "Oh damn," he says, "I can't do half what I used to do, and I can't, hate to have to be right on somebody else's tail all the time, or else go do it myself. I can't work with people that way." And he couldn't, really. But there was nothing that he couldn't do on a ranch, and do a hell of a good job.

DOROTHEA: Now you're calling him Johnny, who are you ---

BARBARA: Crump.

JIM: Johnny Crump. Leland and Mary Crump, they were a family that was in Warner Valley, and they had a ranch right above where his folks did, Adel store. Then later one of the, Leland's youngest brother, he just passed away, oh ten, fifteen years ago, Charlie Crump had the ranch. Now it's some cousin has it, and they asked Johnny to come over and help them a few days, beings he had been on the ranch, and hell, he is still there.

But he told me finally, he says, "Damn it Jim, I can't, and I'd be damned if I'll work with these dam pill and bottle suckers that you get." (Laughter) It was too bad, I wished he could of, but he just didn't have the patience. So, he said, "No." I said, "Well, we'll leave," and I offered to pay him more wages. "Damn it," he says, "I've been here twenty some years, and I'll be damned if I'm going to take money under false pretense." Honest to god. Now you don't find people like that. "I just can't do it, Jim," he says, "hell, I used to do this on the ranch, and it ain't got any bigger. I used to put up all the hay in a certain length of time, now I can't do it."

BARBARA: We all get older.

JIM: Yeah.

BARBARA: Slow down.

JIM: So, by golly it was just a case --- well, I hired, when they left, I hired Dolly's daughter and her husband. He was raised on a small ranch over around McDermit. His dad was a lineman and did contract work and things like that, putting in power lines. So he's pretty much that too, but he is pretty well adopted, he worked it when he was over there on the various ranches in the summertime during his way through college and stuff. But a man got a full time job with the power company, you can't even if he knows, and Dolly's daughter is real good with animals. There is some things you, you just don't have enough hours in the day, and can't do it.

DOROTHEA: And what's his name?

JIM: So, anyway that's why we finally got things liquidated in about November, I think it was about November the 15th, or to the end of the month in '92. I mean, got Marge and Gary Defenbaugh up Trout Creek. Gary is on our rural electrification board. And his dad "Skeet's" was the second generation I believe, and their ranch up Trout Creek was just due east of the ranch that the folks bought from Wallace's. And I went to school with Gary's wife's father Charlie Miler, Jessie Miler from Drewsey. And there is a fellow, too, that don't say much, but he is a hell of a nice person. Marge is just got an awful lot of her dad in her. Her mother was Laddie Clark's sister, who is married to Mrs. Moser, used to be Bill Moser at Denio.

And then later, why, Charlotte down here that married Darrell Northrup, Northrup's were on our

place at the south branch for twenty years or better. And then, we gave them first chance to buy it. I don't want to pick on anybody, but some, damn it some people, fine people, but some people can't see the trees for the forest, or something. You know, when you sell out and you have a plan for retirement, frankly in all truth and reality so, you don't play Santa Claus to Uncle Sam and the State, you can't wait and give somebody five or six years before they can even hike up a decent down payment.

BARBARA: No.

JIM: I know they had kids and they educated them, and they went on vacations and so on. If it would have been me, I know damn well, I wouldn't have got the vacation, because I knowed I couldn't afford it, and I wouldn't of taken it. And I'd have had the damn stock that --- they had some stock. They're fine people, they've got the store down here now. And Charlotte is a jewel, she is too good, she does too much for the neighbors and they get so they impose on her. She is busy enough in the store, and they think that she's got nothing to do but run around and help them because they are older than she is or something. Well, you got to, you can't keep doing that, you know.

BARBARA: Got to say no sometimes.

JIM: But, and Darrell is as honest as the day is long. But when somebody tells you when they don't have a home for their livestock, this is just one example, that if they sold their stock and got completely out of debt, the taxes would take most of it. You're not getting any younger. What do you want to do, keep them and lose money because you don't know where you got a home for them from one year to the next? Well, they couldn't raise the down payment anyway without waiting for several years. I wanted to deal with them. They had to be realistic, or the loan company would have come in. But, well --- but anyway ---

BARBARA: So who did you end up selling to?

JIM: We ended up selling the Trout Creek property there, that just about doubled their herd, or their income, their permit, Defenbaugh's, Gary and Marge. And hell they, well I think they are exceptional kids. They raised their family, and they do mostly all their own work. And, you know,

it's --- some people, it's too bad that they're, I guess you'd call it being vain. I know you can get maybe too dirty, and too slovenly, and maybe not tidy enough and so on. But damn it, there is nothing like a good reputation and a good credit rating, and keeping your bills paid. And if you've got a conscious, I don't care who you are, I think you can sleep ten times better when you get all them damn bills paid. You just can't.

BARBARA: You don't have to spend all your time worrying about it.

JIM: But even before Mom passed away, we had sort of planned, started with Al Brown. You probably remember him.

DOROTHEA: Uh-huh.

JIM: How is Mrs. Brown now, does she still get around, Agness?

DOROTHEA: Yeah.

BARBARA: Agness, yes.

JIM: And the boys there, I see them once in awhile. But I haven't seen any of them for six or eight years.

DOROTHEA: Yeah, they come back once in awhile.

JIM: He was really quite exceptional I think, Al, in --- if, well if you knew him like we knew him. Because I had several other people, my neighbors, that what they told me about their income tax years ago, I says, "That don't even sound right." Well, they'd start to tell me, I said, "Don't waste your time, hell, I'm not a tax man, and I'm not going to waste the time trying to go back to school to do it. But would you please take your problem to Al Brown." "Well, who is Al Brown?" And he, that was back when you could make amended returns and stuff. By god, he saved some people thousands of dollars. In fact, the Wallace's was one of them I believe. They weren't happy with, when the folks bought the place up there with the way the taxes was being handled. And I think he made amended return for them and now --- now I mean at least forty or fifty thousand dollars.

BARBARA: Substantial.

JIM: And, you know, and when Al, when Al got ready to retire we asked him, "Well, Al beings that you're, you tell us you're going to retire, who would you recommend?" He didn't answer. And

I was looking right at him. Well, I thought, well hell, he couldn't help but hear, I heard it. And she asked him the second or third time, and he stopped what he was doing, he was writing a letter or something to the tax department or some darn thing, giving them some facts. Anyway, he says, "When I find somebody I trust myself, I'll tell you." Went right back writing the letter. Honest to god. And we, never no more said for several years. And when he said definitely that was his last year, he was shoveling snow up there where they live, as I understand when he passed, had the heart attack.

Why he referred us to a Charlie Jackson over in Weiser, Idaho. And Charlie is now, not quite my age, but a little younger. But he has an office there of about ten offices, all different nationalities and all different, you know, he can handle anybody's problems. If they speak Japanese, Chinese, or whatever. And he was raised over there himself and we've taken --- and anybody you might know, or if you folks yourself ever have any retirement problems, or any tax problems, he is turning it over to Michael Muir as his next employee for seniority. But he won't steer you wrong.

BARBARA: Always good to know.

JIM: And when we followed his advice and started immediately after Al, well we had tried to do a little bit of estate planning, or you know, because the folks was the age they were and so on. Why you can sell a business or a ranch, believe me if you don't do some estate planning and get some deadlines and some goals that are sane and sensible, that someone who knows can't help but be accepted by the state and the government, my god you can end up, you only get half what you think you got for your ranch or your business. And if you ever have problems, in Weiser, Idaho, Charlie Jackson and Michael Muir.

And I've taken three other neighbors to him that had problems, and two of them are overjoyed, and the other one it even saved him some money, them some money. But now it's getting so that you can't, you don't have some of the options you used to have for averaging and so on.

BARBARA: All the loop holes kind of ---

JIM: And it sounds like they're going to take part of your social security if they can't give everybody free --- I've got a, I'm way off the track here I realize, I'm sorry, but I've got a, Dolly's

son, his wife works in the clinic in Lakeview. And this is the god's honest truth, there is people over there, a lot younger than any of us, and half of them come in, they're on relief, and their parents has been on relief and their grandparents, some of them. Because I've been acquainted with Lake County since in the '40's to where I know some, a few of them. It's just something, they know just how many days to work before they can put in for so much rocking chair. Them people go over to that clinic and they arrange some damn way that the poor doctor gets, lucky to get half what he charges you or me if we go in there. Just because we've got insurance.

BARBARA: Yeah, that's right.

JIM: Damn it, and then your insurance is getting so high now, who can't afford it?

DOROTHEA: But you can't afford not to have it.

JIM: You can't afford not to have it.

BARBARA: Yeah, that's the truth.

JIM: You can buy, besides your Medicare supplement, now there is about twelve if you go into it that's real good policy. You get the most complete coverage that is possible to buy, it's going to cost you, depending on your medical history and so on, several thousand dollars a year. Then you're still not covered for part time care or full time care. And if you take ---

BARBARA: If you have to go to a nursing home or ---

JIM: --- full time or part time care, if you're in the hospital and you're in intensive care for a week, you're going to be the luckiest person in the world if it don't cost you from five to ten thousand dollars.

BARBARA: Oh, yeah.

JIM: You say, well I can't afford the insurance. Well, the insurance is going to cost you about six thousand for the two of us, yes, Dolly and myself. That's over and above your Medicare. But if you go to intensive care, my god, over a thousand dollars a day.

BARBARA: Oh yes, easy.

JIM: And Clinton, or Mrs. Clinton thinks they're going to treat everybody. Everybody if it don't cost them, you know human nature if you've raised a kid in your life well enough to know that if it

don't cost them nothing, every time little Junior or Sissy gets a sprained finger or a nose blood, or sneezes, they're going to take them to the doctor because it ain't going to cost them a damn thing. If you or I, we're going to set there until we've got cramps in the damn waiting room for them because they're going to get it free. Because the last year or two, I've damn near done that with Dolly because she's had pretty severe --- We've had, well frankly we've had eight fairly major surgeries. '82 I had part of my colon, it was cancerous, removed. Then I had part of my urinary tract a few years ago.

DOLLY McDADE: Hi, hello.

JIM: Well hi, you made it.

DOLLY: Oh, yeah.

JIM: Even brought some groceries home.

DOLLY: Oh, yeah.

JIM: You didn't even get any good gossiping in, did you?

DOLLY: What?

JIM: You didn't get any good gossiping in.

DOLLY: Didn't get any what, I didn't hear you.

JIM: You and her go gossiping?

DOLLY: Oh, yeah.

JIM: Did you go someplace from there, or what?

DOLLY: No, no, I just visited. Took some pictures of puppies. I melted my candy bar.

JIM: This is my better half. This is Mrs. Purdy.

DOROTHEA: Hi.

JIM: I lied to you, but I didn't do it on purpose. She is married to George Purdy's brother.

DOROTHEA: Uh-huh, Clint.

JIM: And the gentleman that we saw several times, I told you about had the bad ---

DOLLY: What's his name?

JIM: The bad ---

DOROTHEA: Everett Lofgren.

DOLLY: Everett, Everett, Everett, that's ---

JIM: And this is his better half. (Laughter)

DOLLY: How are you? I'm kind of stove up myself.

JIM: Her husband's folks were the ones that Holloway Mountain is, on Trout Creek, south of Trout Creek Mountain is named for. And they were one of the first ones that brought horses into that, this area in the 1800's.

DOROTHEA: Huh.

JIM: Before it drops over into Kings River Valley.

DOROTHEA: Well Jim, I hate to --- we could sit all afternoon and do a little bit more visiting, but we're running out of tape, and we're running out of time. So is there anything else special that you'd like to tell us about? Or anything that you'd like to share with us? Otherwise, we could ask you if you like to take vacations, or if you plan any vacations, or have you had any vacations?

JIM: We take a vacation about every ten days or two weeks and go see a doctor. (Laughter) Or make some more tests. Like I say, we've had eight or nine major surgeries. And she's had some damn serious ones. That what you call it, aortic ---

DOROTHEA: Uh-huh.

JIM: They wouldn't make a damn if you had a whole hospital full of doctors and facilities if it broke.

BARBARA: You're gone.

JIM: She's had five ruptures and --- I'm telling them how healthy we aren't.

DOLLY: Yeah.

JIM: We've got ideas about relatives and different people, and maybe the Kentucky, maybe the Kentucky Derby and a few things like that we might want to see. Because her folks are back in Michigan. Mine is from back in the cemeteries in the New England States. Outside of a few kids that I've got pictures of, some of my cousins, and when you have to call and you don't want a new doctor every time, we just haven't got to where we can get enough time in between.

DOROTHEA: To go on a good vacation.

JIM: To take a trip like that, and drive like, I don't want to. I don't want to travel more than four or five hundred miles a day, period. I like to see when I'm driving.

BARBARA: Yeah, you don't want to just keep going.

JIM: Even if I've been there before.

BARBARA: Right, things change every time.

JIM: Yeah. But on these pictures now, do you want to look at them some other time or what?

DOROTHEA: Let's stick a few on the video that we're going to take here right away. So, right now, we'll thank you for the afternoon, and all the gossip that you've told us, and everything that you've told us about yourself. And we'll close and do a video. And this tape along with the video is going to be stored at the Harney County Library. So any time you want to see it ---

JIM: If I ever heard it again, I'd say my god, did I tell that?

DOROTHEA: Yeah, you want to see it; well you can go there and see it.

JIM: This is my dad, (picture) you see what I was telling you, he was 19 and he had this big mustache.

(END OF TAPE)

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