

# Dorothy Anderson Oral History Interview Transcript

## SUMMARY KEYWORDS

home, moscow, taught, mother, cheryl, moved, years, kids, school, live, teachers, started, people, teaching, felt, area, married, born, women, sister

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Swanson. I'm doing a recording today, July 1 1980. With Dorothy Anderson, who lives Potlatch round two. In Idaho

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we at first, were go through a personal data sheet. And then the idea is to go through sort of the life history. And as you said, this was done before and it sort of bits been done as a resource on women's history and in rural areas because there's so little that's written about that. And then ask two general questions, I guess. Areas came. Dorothy Anderson, what's your name? And your maiden name?

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McCroskey? Si, si, R S, ke

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Do you have any nicknames? No, I

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really never had well and that was in college dot Mac, but other than that, not now.

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When were you born?

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December 29 227. in Great Falls, Montana

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things and your husband's name is Cheryl here and that's H E R R s h e r r e l. And when was he born?

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March 4 1926.

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And were

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right over home I mean he was right in place so it's right here in the house.

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So Anderson farms probably listen to Tom and his occupation and when were you married

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1952 And more importantly

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and Do you have children

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Wanda Sue and where was she born? Moscow where January 26 19 should be 58

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What do you see as some of the advantages or disadvantages of living in a rural area

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see, we just came back from Los Angeles a lot of advantages I think it's see seems like a smaller area of people and you know so many of the people in the area. Of course I know something because I'm connected with teaching from a lot of the students I've taught and I don't know just a more helping attitude with people if something goes wrong like the years that we've had wet years and we've had a hard time getting crops harvested you'd have some some person finishes they come to finish helping you I think neighbors you can rely on that. I've never lived in the big cities though. So I don't know that I would think that it'd be back for one thing not the there's just a feeling of rush to me when I get down into the cities like LA and things like that. Yeah, that it just seems to be catching seems like everybody's in such a rush. Here you don't seem to have I think also you have a big area to pick from for entertainment, we can still go to Spokane, for some things and McMaster employment close, and yet you're still close to camping facilities. I like the smaller school. To raise it as a disadvantage. I felt that she could have other classes I wish she could have had but at the same time It was a much more personal

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more thoughtful and friendly atmosphere. You're you really been comparing the life, somewhat of the rural woman. But do you? Would you make any other comparisons between the life of the rural woman in the urban woman?

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The friendlies you mentioned?

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Yeah. I don't know where, you know, it's kind of hard anymore. I think your world woman's life is quite different than it used to be. I went to school in Nebraska and left there Tucker, in no way was on stage

at because it was fun. It was really fun. I was not going to step on a farm. But here it seems different. You're so close to time, you don't feel isolated.

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You feel like you have some of the advantages of being both right. Yeah. Close to more urban area.

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Kind of confined your during harvest is about the only thing I can say. But now when we don't even hire to work, I'm, you know, I can leave even during harvests for the day. So one time maybe I'd leave my husband, Sam, it doesn't matter who's the camera that fixes for himself. So I've never had that I've never felt pain.

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And so you don't you don't really have any feeding responsibilities, or No, I don't do it not even during harvest. Now.

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We know we did it one time when we would hire outsiders, you know the Canadian crop a little bit. But with all this equipment today, you know, one or two can do the whole thing and you don't really have just about a 300 acre farm. So it's a smaller farm. I think at one time and when we were first married out here, I kind of felt obligated to fix chickens and to do a lot of canning. Although I enjoyed it at the time, it didn't seem to enjoy fixing chickens and chickens. And I never did. I never did learn to write. But today, we don't do that.

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No you did you live on a family on a farm No. Growing up

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always about scouting town. And I suppose there's about 13,000

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tasks how you would compare your family life when you were growing up? Family life?

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Well, I think I like the family life we've had here on the farm. I think Cheryl has been closer to our daughter since then. But my dad was when he was working. You know, he had his regular workout and he just put his two weeks vacation. And we were seeing Of course at dinner and that was the closest I think we've had here for Cheryl is fairly free in the wintertime. And when she was little she was sick he was on. Because it seems family life. I really like it better than I did into our life. playground was the street. And of course here the kids they have a lot more to do. I think on the farm it was the kids in school and I was it's a town kids that good the first few weeks until the swimming pool comes from a country kids are very interesting.

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You indicated that you haven't always lived in Idaho. When did you come to?

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I came in 1948.

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So you came to this to Portland to teach. And did you did you have a car at the time that you drive here?

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No, no, no car. I didn't even know how to drive time after we were married.

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Did you get to where

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you would? It was usually people would bring me up here. Are we getting lost? Yes, I had or you had another one lost. And my cousin came to teach with me here so they come back and forth or people around here would see that we got to Moscow to catch up.

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But did you come from your home in Montana?

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Well, I had been teaching a year in Nebraska. So I had gone home after I have taught that year and then I had gone to Lowe's to visit relatives for this part of the summer. And I was there when I decided to make a change.

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Okay, now I'll come back to In your teaching, but we look even farther back. Did you know your grandparents? Well, my

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mother's parents I never did my father. Where did they live last night?

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So you had some acquaintance with this area before?

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Yes. Last and not up here. But yes, I

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did the last scenario, general area. And what was what was your grandfather's occupation? He worked

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that was their community. And now your parents like to get actually their names and angels and birth places. Your mother,

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they're both dead. My mother was force will.

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She was born in 1899. Because she was always in Uganda. And my dad was Nathan.

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Go okay. He was about six years older than the other.

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Three or something like that. And they're both dead. You said do you call when they died? Or? Mother died just three years ago. Sexual. And no, were they born in Boston? No, no, my dad

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was born in Kentucky. My mother was born in Nebraska.

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You know, when they were married?

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I've looked it up one time, but I just I'm not going to remember dates and time.

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Did you have sisters and brothers?

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I have. I have one sister, and one brother. And then my sister is Alice. Sharp, or Dnieper? I'll just put down and my brother's name is Burke.

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And they're approximately age.

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All right, my sister's 42 My brother is four years younger than 38. Maybe 48?

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Okay, and when did you come to own a home? When did you come to last?

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Well, I came in teach and 30. But we had we would come to lesson in the summer times of mother to visit

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but you came to Lewiston in 1938. And then you lived here continuously?

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No, I was 48. Thank you for that I first came to teach here. And you mean permitted sort of to live? Yeah. Then it'd be you'd have to put for me because the other classroom most of us

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today were to visit visit. And you would you when you came to visit, would you mostly draw? Or would you know we took the train

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how would you sort of describe your parents live? Where did they live now that they live in?

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They live in Anaconda. And it was a smelting town. It seemed like dad worked. And his whole life was his word. He took his vacation at Christmas times. So we never went on vacations as a family. It was mothering as kids become the lowest come to visit. But that was about the extent of any vacations. Personally in the early years, it was the smelter it's all they always seem to be on strike. And of course, it was kind of a bad time anyway. And so we didn't have a lot of extras. I never remember going without, you know, having to skip. But I know leaves.

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Depression, you remember

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and it really wasn't I don't think until like the beginning of your second world war that things started to boom for yourself. They seem to have a little bit more, but they stayed pretty close to home. My mother just mother was active and that side things through the day, but she was always home at night then our whole life was just kind of centered right there in Anaconda. We never really went there. And we had the hills close to us when we do a lot of climb in the hills. And I said playing in the streets, that was baseball.

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Things other things. It's your brother, you and your brothers and sisters then

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we didn't do much together as a family. Our age differences are four years and 10 years now doesn't make any difference. But then it did and you didn't. The Little Sister You know, it's fun to take her around. But you glad to get rid of her brother was just enough that you kind of clashed in most everything you did. So at home, we did a lot of we play games Friday night was kind of a nightmare.

listen to radio, there's a night dad bowl, he did go and it was kind of a special night mom popcorn and we'd play games and things. I think we did my brother and I did a lot of old playing Monopoly and different things like that. I can remember playing soldiers with him. If I was lead soldiers, that that was probably about extended. And then I started to work when I was a freshman in high school. And I would work from the time and get home from school until 10 at night and little corner grocery store that just a block from home. And then I would close up usually right your I'd be well, I'd be the only one there and then someone would come in get the money. But so even in high school, I didn't take an active part in some of the things that the kids would do today in some of the sports in that although there weren't a lot of sports activity. today.

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Did you mention coming to visit your grandparents in Lewiston? Are there? reunions? Weddings? holiday celebrations are dense?

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Remember? No it was it was mainly just I think about once every four years? We would that was about what could be afforded I think it was never said that. I think they figured that. And we usually stayed up quite a following month or longer. I suppose the sales that well if you that much for tickets while he might as well forget or stay on. And it was yeah, when we would come in then of course my grandparents, my aunt lived there. And then later I had another amp and her family moved there. So it was the picnics in the parks, a lot of picnics and things like that. And my grandmother was great. She liked to cook and of course she that she felt that's what women should do. She worried about me when I was married and still teaching how in the world I was going to put a meal on the table, you know, because I didn't be homeless. But she she always said just a beautiful table regardless of whether she was eating by yourself or with all of us to hear things out. But sometimes we put aside the things that we did a lot of we did that the NMB just the family getting together did you have other family around where you were? No, we didn't. And I think that's why we didn't have the family celebrations. Having family and

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you said that you worked during high school? Did you and your brother and sister have responsibilities in your home? chores that you

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yes it was that any chores we had were usually connected with cleaning our room. We all help get meals and do dishes help with the worst dragging in and out that old washing machine. Things like that. Oh,

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Ringer washing machine. Who would you say was responsible for the discipline in your family?

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I think probably well both of them. But I think dad when dad spoke we never argued with Mother we would argue a little bit. So she was much more lenient but I think most of it fell on her shoulders and my mom and dad would take over he was the kind who said something you did it right then you did

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and he was the authority. I was gonna ask God to towards women when his poor part of your mother

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Why don't mother was was very free to Take part in like her different, the clubs she belong to in our church organization. But of course, she didn't go at night. And that could have been because we didn't have a car. It was difficult to go in place at night, unless someone would pick you up. And she kind of felt she should be home at night, I suppose. But on the other hand, she always dad never, you know, she could go and later years, they know he retired them to Moscow. She didn't worry about you, she was gonna be gone to fixing his dinner, he fixed his own meals in that. So he was quite handy that when the clean house, I was always used to data do things like that. So it was never mother was the only one who could do that. Data to

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vision of labor wasn't hard and fast. No, no.

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And when it came time for school, to go away to college, they really didn't have many of the, the guidance counselor's like they had today, they were beginning to have some kind of stereo. And I remember one trying to talk to me and said that I would probably be better if I would just find a good job in a store then be happy to stay there. And I suppose I was going to call it and I think they felt my folks couldn't afford it. And try to steer me into something else, which really irritated dad did not

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expect you to go to

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college? Oh, yes, yes. Because I said one time, maybe it'd be better if I just waited a year and worked and dad didn't like that at all. i He paid for two years of college for me. And then I realized my brother be coming up. And at that time, you could go on teach on two years very easily. And so I realized two years was enough. And I did the rest on my own. But yes, he was very school was, you know, education was important to him. He had an education. My mother had a couple of years of college, but my dad had

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it, he wanted your brother and sister also to go. And they did.

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Bert. Bert went to school for a couple of years. And of course the Korean war came along. He was four years in the Navy. And then he came back and did the rest on his own. And my sister



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had all fours said your mother hand and several years did she teach?

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Yes. She taught

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what would you describe as some your lightsaber? First of all, I just want to ask that you say you went to school for two years? Where did you go to school

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I went down University of Nebraska. And I think I went there I had had Anaconda is very much a union town you didn't do anything without belong. When I was in high school, I had to belong. Because I worked even though it was part time. And when I first we only said that you can't work after six. Well that ruined everything for me. But just so happened the man that owned the store was called into the army. So I was able to work at night because you see, he wasn't there. Someone could work. But I'd had some unhappy experiences with him. It seemed that I wanted to get clear away from Montana. And of course my mother had gone to the Grand Circus.

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And you had some relatives and

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none that I think there were some around back. But

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he had been gone so long that she got into university and that's interesting. And then did you go on to school after you?

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Did you? Yes. Then Then after I moved that department and I went summer schools and then by the two years and then after Sue was born, I quit teaching for six years, five years and then that six year before she went back to school I went back and got my master's degree and then I I keep getting I just about him in between my masters in my sixth year.

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You went to Nebraska and then you got your Bachelor's

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University and I got my masters at University of Idaho

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what would you say were some of your special skills or interests

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Let's see now do you mean other than teaching? Okay, well teaching Yes, definitely.

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Are you are you a reading teacher?

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Yes, I was reading an English

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You worked and then you said your first job was a part time job when you were in high school. And then did you work while you were in college?

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No, I didn't. I didn't work those two.

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And you said you taught for. Did you say you taught one year at Lewiston?

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No, I taught one year in the Nangal Nebraska Oh in Nebraska then I came here.

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And so you taught for a while before you are married?

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Yes. 40 To 50 to

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what how would you say you spent your leisure time then? What groups you've been involved now. You're still single

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Well, of course in college, it was some

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college functions at the dorms put on the dancers, the dorms. Going home with you know, the students we met we did quite a bit of that. And got a taste. That was my first taste of farm life when I went home in Nebraska, but they didn't have electricity and we had the outhouse that I had never been used to. And then how I came up here I think it's all dancers went to Spokane to different functions that would come along. Kind of fun. You circuses. If there's any special musical groups that might come I can remember seeing a banjo player key body I think it was very impressive

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plays into the place you know you do a lot of visiting at people's houses too.

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Did you live in Patna?

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Yes, I live right in Polish. The at that time see Potlatch when I first came here was owned by the lumber company, the town was on. And but the board just kept the house. They just kept the house for teachers. And it was all furnished. And each bedroom had to everybody had their own bed, their own dresser and your own desk. You had to clean your week, and you had to cook for nice meals and have things there for breakfast and lunches for them to fix. And you pulled I mean, you just all the bills went in. And what brought us here is because it was one of the cheaper places it was quite reasonable to live

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in this was provided for single people.

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Yes, just in the teachers, they were fine. But Socratic Yeah, and so we did things together. I learned a niche, you know, with a group. So a lot of wintertime

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social activities probably centered around that.

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Clay Pinaka maybe had others. One time we had other teachers. It was it when you were connected with the people that you're working with.

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to a smaller extent it wasn't as much then when I was single, we weren't really included. I can't say mainly with the teachers and debt you're either they didn't include the single teachers. At that time. The married ones had their own little groups. And so they became single

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ones every single one. And of course, we get together in connection with living together

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and practice or entertain we went to Moscow or we went to Spokane or we went to Portland.

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And somebody had a car.

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Yes, usually the detail there.

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But that sort of leads into courtship and marriage. Well, what are some of the things that you remember about your courtship? early marriage?

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Well, I met Cheryl through his his brother's wife now she was a homeroom teacher there and she was going with his brother. Just one time they decided they'd want to have a steak dinner invite the fellas they were going to play cousin had come up here to teach and she was going to grade school principal. And I usually went to last and the kid that I was going with that time had gone back to Chicago and was going to school back there. And so I started didn't have any study at the time. So they taught me understanding. And Cheryl had just come from California who'd been going to school and so That's how I met him. I really reluctantly stayed I didn't want to, but I did. And he was around a lot. He came up a lot if it wasn't just to just to come up to see me for the evening, and of course, you'd come out and visit. He was there with all the other teachers too. You know, it was just one big group, they'd be there in the living room. But it seemed to be and he had the car so I probably had some more of the country then because we we went different places. And then it was nice, you go to see different points of interest around and went to dances a lot, went to the Elks club a lot to their dances in moleskin. That was, yeah, it was one of the main places your dances and even things like took him a lot of the university functions. I mean, games and things like

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did you expect them always sort of expect to get married? Oh, no. Do that you're expected you to get married? No, no, I don't mean marry, you know, specifically to sure all, but I just

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didn't know what to do. No, I don't think there was anything.

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Other options?

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Oh, yes. Yeah, I never felt that. You know, marriage was never really talked about it too much. There was one kid I was gonna seriously and I think you're a little worried. I might marry them because I don't think they liked it as well. But that they got and when I first started as Cheryl, it definitely wasn't. As

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did your family get to me here? And then

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we went to get about four years before? Yes, he. Of course, I would be going to summer school. So I wouldn't be home very much. But I go home, as soon as School's out. And then he came. After me one time, he stayed a couple of days. So yes, they met him even before we were serious.

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Can you remember any particular things about your early marriage? Did you when you got married? And did you live here?

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No. We live in Moscow. He wasn't. He wasn't farming, he worked at a Chevrolet garage over there. And we lived in Moscow a couple years. So my commute. And since I didn't drive, there were others who can eat and then I paid my share.

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I think probably then with annotate with the show a lot. TV was just coming in, but TV didn't interest us. And I don't think at the time, we really thought we could afford a TV. But we went to shows a lot and we had friends we would go visit. And I know at Christmas. One year, he worked so we didn't get home Christmas to my home. And we always celebrated Christmas Eve. And his family was always Christmas Day. So we would come out here for Christmas Day with his friends Ryan fixed gifts for their kids because they had some little kids. Several Christmas Eve went there just so that I could have a Christmas Eve. But again, it was it was mainly been doing things. And people's house was personal. And a lot of times

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the number of people who you had taught with hotlines and single teachers or even then a couple.

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No, it was then it was more than friends he'd made after we were married. I think those I had taught with sort of some of them some of the simple ones had moved away. And we would see his brother and wife a little bit but they were having children when I had little ones and didn't get out very much and we'd go over and see and occasionally then my cousin they moved away so it was it was mainly for people and it wasn't we didn't really get in touch with teachers until we actually moved over here

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in Moscow so far. Weekends from

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from No, no we got over to see his folks. And we did a lot of things with his folks. There's not a penis with more for them. Or the day

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Do you remember any particular old separation that you had for childbirth or, or for other feminine things like periods or things like

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that. Mom had white males. And they took both my cousin and I, and it's explained everything and had books and things like that. So I wasn't in the dark. The things like that I don't think covered things quite

well. I don't know. Maybe not so much preparation for marriage, you might say that there was no anything I ever want to ask. I asked. I think I had an answer. And then, as soon as it seemed like everything had been quite well explained,

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you said to was born in Moscow. And so you had medical service? Yeah. Were you still living in Moscow? No, no, we were far away. So you had medical services there? Yes. She was born in Britain.

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And we had a doctor in Potlatch at the time that my husband had a claim at that time. And we have an airstrip. There were three in it, and the doctor was in on it. But I had gotten to this doctor in Moscow, and I still felt more at ease with him. But but this one came in every night from here, talk to him and stuff. We still went up there to get to him, was the one we'd gone to all the time when we first moved over there.

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You didn't come from a large family.

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Anybody who just has one sister,

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or any particular factors that affects having a

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one child yourself? Yeah, more children know, when we were first married, I think children are the farthest from our mind who just at the time, were, you know, didn't want to start any family right away. And we didn't. And we enjoyed the freedom we had for you know, on a weekend if we just decided let's drive up to Canada, you know, we could you didn't have to worry that I think then we finally realized I was 31 students. And that if we were going to have one needed to think about it. And then I think because of our age at the time, we decided we would just end up I think it was because we started later. I sometimes now think would be nice probably for her if she had a brother or sister or someone else. As I'm closer to my brother and sister now than I used to be. At that time

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I was gonna ask how you then spent your time after Sue was born. You said that Cheryl had more time for her. You had taught up until the time she

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was yes and then I didn't teach them after she was six years Well, the more confined home them but we were ready for it didn't bother staff to stay home, you know, Saturday nights when you go out and do something. So we did a lot more things here at home and probably did more things with family and then shortly after that my folks moved to Moscow. And then my sister came to Moscow to go to school. She was still going to college. My brother ended up then after a few years in Moscow to he was in the

architect was in the architect department he's still interested I'm not in that department. So now I had family closer so now we began to have the family get together on my site where we did a lot of what are your house with our kids

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celebrate holidays together? Yeah, definitely Thanksgiving Day

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Thanksgiving and Thanksgiving Christmas and Easter are the main ones did didn't always get together for the birthdays celebration occasionally. Now my mother's we would we always did things with mom and dad for their birthdays or something would get together for those but not necessarily. But really when you start to think about it did a lot with family.

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The larger family

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right around Yeah, so now and then with my aunt. She would come up have different celebrations and where they go down.

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Or hide your husband's family.

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We seem to do more with my sister than he did with his family.

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They moved to did

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did what magazines do you take? Or do you watch TV program?

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TV has we watch TV, but it's never been our main thing and we never had the problem with our daughter bluing taking her with being that she'd be glued to the TV. never had that problem. And she was in school and then she had to go there a lot to do with practicing or homework. They were kind of special programs. We like to watch it there wasn't a program on and even up there isn't something that sounds interesting.

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When you say you're more readers,

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yes, we're all fresh. My mind has passed over. And well we we take a lot of magazines. I take phone calls and better homes and garden changing times. National Geographic have taken them. The Smithsonian Magazine just dropped it last year didn't realize we had dropped it. It was kind of a mistake. I thought we had it didn't. We needed Newsweek and Time Magazine. Take papers last. Do you only take two papers nice folks. Take two others and then we switch so we have do you all do a lot of

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your husband

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to do a lot? Yes. She did a lot and she was a very good reader. And we all do a lot of reading you have to go to bed. And I do live handwork there's certain things that if I want to watch TV, I can't just sit down i i have some knitting going or some crocheting and Suunto says she's into the macro things like that. So she's She does a lot of Sony.

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Are you ever entered any of these in any county fairs?

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No, I haven't. I forgot about that. Last time we went over there, I thought, oh, I should enter some of the sweaters I do that I have done so. But I was thinking about it too late. And I thought well, next year I might just I finished here on a sweater issue that I thought pretty much all but there was especially and nearly Yes. That I've enjoyed. Don't know why. But nine new letters and things. Yes, but it's probably been in the later years when Sue was littler. I guess I need her a few sweaters. And I did some sewing out of necessity because I wasn't teaching and we were just taking over the farm and money was pretty tight. So I did learn to sell but I I enjoyed it then. But when she got about junior high age she started to sell then she just didn't want to so I kind of quit sewing and went into the other silver knitting and that has been

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your the main

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skill like embroidery or? Yes, I

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know. Yeah. Oh, I special. No, I am. I have a potter squeal in a kiln. But for some reason I've let it slide and haven't done anything for several years with it. But I took a class at the school the art teacher taught a class and part of me really liked and so she got killed in the potter school. So no, I do that. So yeah, I have that oh, and I make candles. I like to make candles. Do a lot of especially around Christmas time. And usually in the summer I make my canvas for Christmas

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I like to be outside in the garden. I kind of went flowers first and now I've kind of gone the other way. I've got we've gone down back to the vegetable garden had several years when I didn't bother with the vegetable garden. But now, I kind of like I don't do a lot of canning. Like I used

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to but did you like the years when you were at home after she was born? Did you do a lot of

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canning? Yes. Yes, I do. Well, even when we first moved out here because folks always had a huge garden. And so I just fell in love. This is what I should be doing. You know, so I got into the garden working into the kitchen, and we would go down and pick our food. It wasn't too far.

45:04

It's all fun. Yeah, but yeah, we went out. But Cheryl would go to to, you know to pick the fruit. He always pick the fruit. And then I'd come back in Canada and we ate. We ate a lot of that time.

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You can didn't Did you do any freezing?

45:22

Yes, I didn't. When we first started, I didn't have a freezer. But we had a locker box. And then the folks we bought it for we moved out. We bought a freezer together. Big when she met her. So yes, I've had always had the freezer. So we've done our freezing. We had our own meat. And that's been a number of years. But we still

45:52

these are things that Cheryl's parents didn't. Yeah. Didn't hear it did your after your. I suppose when your parents moved to Moscow, your father retired? Did your mother ever do any camping? No. She didn't understand your grandmother. cofounding. Oh,

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yes. Done a lot. Oh, yes, grandma, they would go over to Clarkston and pick the fruit. Had the gardens and can Yes.

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But now you say that, that has changed. You don't do a lot of can No, I

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said gardening you have sort of gotten back into Yeah, into the garden. Beds. It's kind of one way to get outside. And it's to have deep during the summer. But I really well freeze some things if I have another squash.

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And you don't get any fruit? No,

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no, why don't we don't go pick the fruit. And I guess we finally decided when I took a look at it. You know, by the time you buy the fruit and everything I find and decided I wasn't saving very much. And it was always kind of a rush just before school started to be like kind of lost interest. I think a lot of that comes in

47:11

at the end of the summer. teaching responsibilities really

47:16

quick, we found we could survive without having the fruit. And I think as you get older, you start counting calories a little more decided, well, you know, we don't really need all of them. I'm sure I cook differently than what his mother did. I mean, we don't have the three big meals a day. Cut back and we survived. I have to laugh because Cheryl loves the sound here like a shrimp or tuna salad at night even during harvest, and his father, but you don't have anything hot. You know, there is something more than that you have the same amount of good things that you have quite a change with some of them that you don't have dessert, but we're just bury so

48:03

of course you aren't home at noon, when you're

48:06

teaching No. And when I first went to teaching, I would try and leave a sandwich that didn't last very long. He said Gee, I don't need that. But Nunes I don't want that sandwich if I'm not working hard. So I don't blame anything. And

48:23

then did you have to make any special arrangements when you went to teach? Or Sue was in school?

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He was right. See, I didn't go back to teach until she was ready for school. And I did go back to the university. And then when that whole year, but she went to kindergarten with the President in kindergarten and just had to walk a block to my focuses. And they can't until I become Yes, it was nice. And she she got to kind of know her grandparents, I think a little bit more about being with them.

48:58

Did you always plan the team? Even before he went to college?

49:04

Yes. I think that was the only thing that was ever in my mind. I don't know if maybe it was the fact that there didn't seem to be too many things open to you. And of course my mother taught me to answer. And it just sort of seemed the natural thing to do. Or a woman did you think you would do and continue to teach when you got married? Oh yeah. When we got married I knew I was gonna go into teach being

49:36

the one we're interested in getting back to

49:41

Yes, I think when so. So I got involved in a lot of other activities around and then I was on school board for six years to that I was not teaching but I finally decided I was just as organized more organized when I taught And then when I was home here, and I really I got so busy that it didn't even seem like I sometimes had time for anything with the outside organizations. And I thought, Well, gosh, teaching, I'll be more relaxed. I'll be on the go. So

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it wasn't when I went back into it that the money was needed at that time. Yeah, especially enjoy. And I just didn't think I could be just being with Sue in school and just being around one there wasn't I didn't think enough for me to do.

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But you've been on the school board. And you've been involved in other community activities. Yes.

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At that time. Well, I was Eastern Star and I've gone through the chairs

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have been really major. Always we've always been involved with church, an office there. And then our Women's Association, the church, Women's Association, and head offices there. And of course, it's like everything else. When I wasn't teaching Dorothy doesn't work, she can do this. And then I had Sunday school classes. And then they had their little all their rural clubs that they have the Gordon homemaker clubs in that and of course, I got involved when I wasn't teaching. I got involved with that. And enjoyed that. And it was entirely different group of people that I'd never been around before it was still community people were the

51:28

women in liking this mean, you there. Yeah, they were with us as sponsored by homak demonstration or

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demonstration thing, and it's all connect, I think with your four h and I think they steal from Moscow extension, extension service comes out with different things. And they have very interesting programs. And it's because you know, things like that, that I enjoy.

51:56

Now, you said that you have been involved in church to church and religion would consider important.

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Oh, yes. What has been church or Presbyterian?

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potluck? Have you continued these to community activities, any of these community activities after you started teaching?

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Church? Well, I dropped out of the women's group they meet during the day, a lot of these meet during the day. I think Eastern Star I've kind of dropped. I don't go to it all the time. Now. It's Thursday nights. And it seems like as soon as growing up, and especially in high school, we became so involved. We're still very involved in school functions. I think, in this community, a lot of your social work is involved around the school, what's going on at school, and they have their school plays and their games and their band concerts. I think a lot of people take those organizations when they're making money, activities for parents. And she was so involved with everything. And yeah, we went the times that we thought we might miss this morning gay. She said what you mean, neither of you were coming. And so we just we just always went. And that began to take so much of our evening time that I started dropped out of Eastern Star. I'm still a member. But I wasn't as active in that, but I still am still with the church. But I don't have a Sunday school class anymore.

53:30

For now that speaks about so your family activities as she got older, high school and so on. You did quite a lot of things. Yeah. With her or attended things. She was involved in sports?

53:46

Yes. And band drama, no, not drama, but she was in sports and she was in all sports. And any any functions or dinners or anything they were putting on, of course she went. She was in national honor society. So anything they did, we went also in the chaperoned a lot of dancers,

54:15

when you say that the school is really a social center of the community?

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Yes, I think it is. And I think it probably still is even with Sudan, because we still, we don't feel like we have to go to quite make a switch. You say you have. I'm in junior high. So I kind of feel obligated to go to junior high functions, the games. And we enjoy going to high school games and there's the girls high school game, there's the boys. And there's the volleyball games. basketball, and football. Yes, I think we are very much so now though we do belong to a bridge club that we enjoy. It's once a month and it's their couples. And I belong to women's bridge club. And I do go to them It's not entirely made up of teachers, it's other people in the community so and Cheryl, did he belong to kind of slack on a week ago sometime for husband and wife about it as a kind of a community? It's like a Jaycees, but it wasn't chasing Lions Club. So there's Lena, I don't they don't have a ladies lions. I don't think they're going to start one up there. But for this time, I said, you know, you get so many nights.

55:37

You think the role of children's changed since since Sue was young? And maybe sort of coupled with that I was going to ask them, do you see changes in your role as teacher? You have a period of time actually, of course, when you're taught before she was born,

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and I see a change in the in the, in this community with the kids coming in. I sometimes they don't give the kids enough responsibility. They don't know how to do things. Maybe I'm seeing what my mother does. And I don't know if you think do you think

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that's true for children in town and the children in the rural area, you mentioned that

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I think those in town have less the children in the rural areas are good, I have more responsibility, especially if they're a lot of ours belong to for each and then have animals to take care of and things like the ones in town, more and more seem to have less to do. I see them kind of a breakdown on respect. And maybe it's I find, you show respect to try and show back. But it's the ones that do a lot of moving around the one spin split homes that have some problems when I see different types of problems. And I don't know if I'm getting older because

57:09

developed increased a lot in the more recent years, that you've been teaching

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to a certain extent, yes. I don't think it's all the respect. I don't think it's all bad. Used to be we would have a real you must dress this way. You had no choice. And I've been through the change of that. And as it was changing. I agreed with the kids. Why do the girls always have to wear dresses. And I see the kids wanting to that way wanting to take more of what they're going to do think with themselves. And I still say like the dress code in there still should be the parents should decide. But it's a good app if you can save a lot like school to do it because I want my kids to dress that way. But I don't want to be the need to tell them. I've always felt that responsibility

58:00

to finished high school about three years ago. Four years ago, had there been a change then to this more flexible or has that sort of consumption?

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Oh no. This is before she while she was down when we dropped her dress code. She was dancing junior high grade school and all this turmoil

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after she graduated from high school, what did she do?

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She went to college she went three years to University of Idaho. And then she was married last year. And she finished over they live in Olympia and she finished it was a private Catholic College. At least at St. Martin's yeah she finished in accounting she apologize when she started she didn't want to go into teaching I said that was perfectly all right. She went first into engineering but she didn't think it was exciting in

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accounting bachelor and they live over there in that area

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the changes since you've been a teacher as far as children Have you have you changed in your what you've taught or things like this? Have you always been a reading teacher?

59:48

No. I started as fifth grade. And then I moved up to junior high and yes, I've been in the language

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business special interest you're and I was gonna ask about recreation and relaxation you've talked about the different crafts that you do do you people go camping? Yes

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Catherine pick up for her now we have between

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first you said you do things with school but what? What else? What camping do you do?

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What else? Well, our camp drive and I can't use your activity has mainly been done with families who've had kids growing up and we still can't do anything other kids have grown up. We've vacation tried to take a couple of weeks, usually tries to take all the juice that we can vacation if you're gonna go someplace. So we've done as soon as growing up, we went a lot of different place we have to candidate back in Minneapolis and my sister has ever been damaged cargo have gone off the Black Hills. I've had several trips to California, down through the Oregon coast. Trying to do things like that. Also like traveling. Yes. Three. Because we used to have some cattle too. And then we finally decided you hang out pretty much since I went back to teach in school but in school where we had to decide if we're going to have vacations, but go so we decided well, we can do a little bit less money there and still do things together June and July comes and then here. We can harm Yeah, you can't go. So in the early part of

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summer is really

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the time for you

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to take vacation and that's what you and your husband have done together. We continue to do that even after she graduated. Yes,

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we still go camping

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I think you've made some comparisons. I was gonna ask how you compare things now with what you did 30 years ago. It was what 28 years ago when you're married. You said you did to Kenny but can you think at that time think of other comparison?

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Well, I think in the cooking and I think I did a lot more baking bread and making desserts and things like that. I enjoyed it but I don't do that anymore. I did more sewing then and I don't know

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dress is different. I think we I think we dress more casually today than we used to because ain't anyone out what she's like she'll always wear the suit. You know? The dress definitely was suit. She reminded me one time when we've we've had gone over to visit my sister and we're coming home and it happened to be on Easter. And I had her dressed in a dress to travel. How silly that was you know now

1:03:19

I think humor can I think we do more to today. I'm trying to think of something else. I think at that time then I did my own hair now I don't I go to the hairdresser. And since she's on vacation, that's why I've gone to this type of a hairdo. I can't even do my own hair anymore. You can believe

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you of course always had a car so that's not a different I mean, since you've been there

1:03:58

No, no.

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Well, he'd say I tend to you or we tend to car course in your marriage. But then, in comparing differences between now and your childhood home yet we'd go back even farther. 30 years. You were saying that your mother horse had a wringer washer?

1:04:29

Of course you Oh, I have so much more than mother here is just she didn't really have very much to work with at all. She always marveled that I have had because I just study appliance, you name a habit. She just didn't when I retired at Christmas, buy different appliances. And she said at the store she had there in the apartment where they live was the nicest stove she'd ever had. They have a refrigerator.

They had a refrigerator. My sister was born. They got their first refrigerator. We had the ice box. Remember the Iceman coming around with his wagon he was pulled over to horses would always run out and he chip off the ice. You know, you'd grab the ice chips that was just delicious. Electricity? Oh, yeah, we had electricity. And we had indoors. But we had the ice box down.

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And you said, did your parents have a car? No.

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We walked every place. I think that's one of the changes that you know, I think it'll get cars with me. I try and force myself now to walk down after the paper. It's so easy just to get in the car some drive down. Because we walk to school and had to come home for lunch. And that was about 10 bla bla bla bla. Then another thing would go clear back. Cheryl has motorcycles. I don't, I tried to drive. But I don't like to walk as I don't go very fast. But I like to get the bigger one. And I ride with him. And just to get on those things and take it

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on relaxation, recreation, is that relaxing? Recreation? How would you say that you and your husband, Ron decision

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consoling each other?

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Have your separate area?

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No, we've never seem to have too much of I think we talked at all. It was just natural. He's around so much of the time, you know, we were always we always sat down for me off together. We never, you know, I never had to fix one and then another very seldom. And if soon was going to be practicing, right? We just waited. And he was always here. So anything that came up, we both knew this was coming up and would just just talk themselves out. So there was

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a way you would handle conflicts. And you said that he often would fix his meals and so on. I was going to ask noon. What was his attitude towards the role or my wife and a woman?

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Oh, yeah. Oh, yeah. Encouraged, I think encouraged me, if you want to fine.

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If you want to do this fine. It was never had that feeling that I had to do something in the house first. Something else I wanted to do. I that was just fine. Go ahead and do it. There



1:08:11

were individuals, but still, we don't go our own way from things together. But very much so I in the money matters. I probably do all of that. I write all of the checks. And I know how you should know where this and this is. I said, you know, you may have to do this sometime. But if when it comes to selling the wheat, he does it because he knows how to deal with it. And as a farmer, you're always gonna have to borrow from the bank during certain times. And he always done that I have done that. I said the interesting if I went up to see if they would loan me the money, I've been curious about

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where you've been playing as a teacher who's only been in the role, the position and a lot of women

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sort of striving for that. What do you think about the changing role of women?

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Well, I like to see him become pure. I know. We still have friends who she's never worked and I begin to set my own kids. The girls, they don't want to work them after they get some fine, it's a necessity and gone to work, but to me. I don't know how you could just sit at home. If you didn't have children. What she would have you would occupy your time. I think it's nice but she I think you have to get around to her daughter has mentioned she doesn't have a job yet. And she's hoping to get one because she wants to work from the start. And when she first moved over there and before school started, she just about went crazy because she couldn't have adult people to talk to us in the neighborhood. And I think that's why I'd be in so many things she really wants to work with. Yes. And once in a while we'll have arguments and arguments where they say, Well, I, I want my meals, you know, not big meals. And I'd say, well, that really isn't that necessary all the time. It's something that we can't, or maybe they do it because the RV, and I say probably pack up to camp. If I'm busy. I tell everybody, we're supposed to ensure you get your own things packed and ready to go. If I had, if I had the time, I could check them over and make sure they had everything that everybody was responsible for. But then I can see you know, if I wasn't this one, Elsevier, but I'm working right up till we go. And she's home all the time. That's why I expect her to do I guess I could admit that. Sometimes it seems that there is expected to do things that are necessary nice to see it most of

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your speaking.

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Work. So you're no no, I probably had the role that night and see that some are striving for because I know that there are children that go to school that talk to me and know that their mothers have quite a rough time. They are expected to wait on everybody at all times to wait on. Well, I didn't even see that with my own folks, you see. So

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you grown up in an atmosphere where that that situation that the mother was just the certain unpleasant, because now I exist. My mother in law, she was more to

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she was always home to cook. And she didn't go very much. It wasn't till after the kids were married, that she got an Eastern stars and things like that. And I don't think that would have made her feel that she had to stay home. I think that was just what she felt. Shouldn't be done. Of course, she cooked for big farmhands, when, in the early years when they did anything with horses. So she was used to them.

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We've talked some about the small town, I was going to ask if you had any suggestions for a young person who would be going live on a farm or in a small town and encouraged me is whether your daughter likes to come back some situation like this.

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Right now? No, I think with the young people, for her that stayed around her, she said, their entertainment seems mainly. And those that seem to be living here now that grew up and living there now that her her age and a marry, marry, that their whole entertainment is just Saturday night with the bar. And she said,

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there's so much more than that. Now, she was looking at just a few women, I don't know if maybe

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Corsair in the areas that didn't move to Seattle for a lot of different things. And there's different things that they do over there. But I sent her I said, you know, not everyone does. We don't go other places, too. But I think she was referring to her own friends that are still around. Now. If they would come back to this area, I think they would take advantage of Moscow and Tokyo. But she felt that they're just geared one way with the beer bus. And although she was with the same kids and did some of the same things, they didn't scream, she felt chill. And I think it was the the social life activity that you but you have to go in. If you're not just competing with any young person, you'd have to tell him that they would have to find their activity. They didn't just want to go to the bar of Saturday night. But you can do it but you can't sit at home. A small town is also hard. new person coming into small town has their problems too. Because people don't always flock to them. You think, you know you do oh, here's a new person will go see him. But you might go visit him that's and then back again. And I have found with some of the people that when they first moved in, they had a very difficult time getting acquainted. But the thing to do is to get involved in some of the organizations that are in your church. You have to

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move into a small town in a rural area to

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do I would think it'd be the same in the city. But if you want to be with people, you're going to have to sometimes make the first move.

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Now, you, I don't suppose really ever made a conscious decision to live in a rural area. Or know when you, you were saying, when you came to Potlatch that it was an economical place to teach. And then of course, there's practically what

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brought you to this area. And I think I really wanted

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you. I didn't think, did you want to live in a small town at that time, or no rural

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areas close to last, when we could get down near La? No, because I really thought, well, I'll go ahead and get my other two years across college than I get into a larger school.

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You said something about early, having been to Los Angeles was that just a visit, or you have always lived here in this area since but we've gone?

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Well, Cheryl had an aunt that lived down there. And my first experience down is after she died, and we had to get them to pack up their things. And that was my first experience with a large city. And we've just been back just to visit Disney go to Disney. But my husband was the same way here when he, he wanted to get away from the fall, because he went right into the service. And then he went to California to school to take. I was working in the large airplane engines, that type of work. Then it dawned on me after living there for being there a couple of years going to school that, gee, if I'm going to get this job and have to live here, and he was beginning to think that facility life wasn't. So we came back here and then went to work in Moscow, a garage, and the boss decided that they farmed, he was starting to help them summers. He was ready to take over. He was ready for like maybe maybe all that obviously, like just get out of there. You know, maybe it's a change you get used to living

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when he really did make sort of a conscious decision to come back to a smaller town in Moscow. It's more than the big city. I guess. Relevancy would. Could you describe maybe some of the happiest times are the most fulfilling? I suppose that teaching is one of the most fulfilling things for you? Or what are some of the happiest

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things that we've done with Sue as she's grown up and we're pleased with the outcome I think one of the things is just just a good time Cheryl and I have been together in just about anything we do. I think another very fulfilling thing is this Cheryl had gone to Sunday school and wasn't as active in the church as I was so for many years, just soon I sort of went to church and she has taken her lessons to saying whether she would join or not. And he decided well maybe I better take care taking interest and now fulfilling to me is that we do things together with church and participants. And I think being around with family fulfilling was to me too, and I got my master's degree to do what we're saying. And I think our

house we I've enjoyed this and Cheryl, all of this is things he's done he's built we when we first moved out here we moved house down to that was a shell and he did the inside and enlarged. Had the things that we've been able to do there.

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Your home together and enjoy a beautiful home. Are there any is there anything else that you think might be said? Like tell me about the experiences? Well, woman Royer?

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You had said earlier, you were glad that you raised your daughter small.

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Yes, when I sometimes get involved with those people that have been in the large city schools, the things that go on, although we've had some of the same things on a small point, I suppose we've gone through the drug but I'm not afraid to go to the school. Night? And I wouldn't if I was in some of the larger schools, you're not afraid of any of the students high school or otherwise? Because we don't have in any way in this area, it doesn't seem we're getting people moving in question. Some of the people that they don't stay on, because they don't

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the teachers know the video classes. When you know, the kids, and after you hear along quite a few years, you begin to realize why this one has troubles because you also know the background of the kids.

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Maybe? Do you think that that

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helps children if you realize, oh, hey, he's tired today. And you can't function today? Well, you know that mom and dad maybe drink a lot, or mom has different ones living with it. Things get pretty rough.

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So you say that helps with students who have problems as well as in trying

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to understand, because I find sometimes with new teachers, they get real uptight about this, and I can understand why they can't do this. So what they're doing pretty well with what they had to work with. Well, he explained what kind of home life they have, then they begin to see well, yes. I understand.

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This is really quite a change. I sort of have a personal interest in the Moscow mountains. Have you ever used that area as a recreation area? Do people ever gone up there for picnics or anything like that?

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You know, we have we have a lot of times in the summertime, we would to a couple of different times that we just drive around. And within that mosque. We never

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did you ever known any people who've lived up there or

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some of those roads, I suppose.

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No, I'm not sure. I think most of those probably in that area gone into Moscow. I'm not sure.

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Well, is there anything else that you think? experience I think I think you're beginning to see more and more

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women taking the interstate and getting jobs, but this is after they've had some children. And I think maybe it's becoming

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in you within this area that normally they have gone to right here in potluck. Yes. Theory? Yes, I

1:23:02

think so more. Now, there's another fact I taught her when she was a fifth grader. And three of her two other girls graduated this year, the twins, the boy is now going to be a freshman. And she used to saying she wants to go to school. She's gonna last and I went to nursing school. She was a very bright girl, but she was married right out of high school. I know the boy, I had him as an eighth grader. He's pretty upset about it because he was going to be home and he'd go home. And it was that attitude. But I think her husband was encouragement going into it. And I think, I don't know the children if it was just, she decided she wanted to do some more of her life, but they felt they could lose money. Because they're two girls, they want to go to college. It's a little late now to be getting your education. But I begin to see a few more that most of the time I think it's the need to and it's too bad. Some don't like working and that I don't know if I'd be if you didn't like your job. It'd be terrible to have to work. Because I said when I and it gets to be a real drag. A good time to quit. But EVERY YEAR STUDENT Yeah, it's

1:24:16

not the population. The school changed.

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It's only gone down a little bit. You know, it's we have a little bit of classes are small. The first year I taught 53/5 graders will now 30 twos.

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You see pretty much the same problems in reading or use.

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Are they in I'm not. Since we've put in our special ed with accredited special ed class. They're taking care of these. When I first started teaching, I didn't know what to do with him. in there, everybody bought their own books. So if you couldn't read out on fifth grade reader, you were stumped, because there was no place I could go to get a lower reader. And I don't see that those children that are special ed, although we mainstream as much as we can, in other words, the teacher comes into the room. So we kind of keep them together. I don't see as many of the ones that just can't leave it. There, they're still loyal readers. But there again, there's no encouragement. And I think this has a lot to do with the mother's nutrition, and that is that child is developing. And I see families where they're all to begin to see that. But the problems are their nutrition. Yeah, I think a lot a lot to pick on, you see a lot in the same families. You know, someone must has to be hereditary, but they didn't want to admit that. But I said you get something the other thing you do get some of your brain says

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is this a difference? That you see in in pop? Potlatch school? Nail? Well, are there more are having reading problems? Or are they I don't know everything when you first started to work with?

1:26:28

Well, unless I just didn't know how to spot on my head a lot. And I think they'd have had him and they'd set you know, I think is the back to mount and those kids are problems in high school. We have now in high school, and there are still the reading poems. I think our special ed is doing a lot with them, I should say, with those kids that would normally have dropped out of school who finished eighth grade. But we still have the reading problems. Yes. And I don't know I can't you begin to see I began to see that couples to that choose to be married and have children involved with what I taught. And so it is anonymous, nobody's going to come out of that. That's why I say there has to be something I think maybe more of the problems is we our district with our kids in the school situation. And we have pattern United say pattern grades I think made it easier for them to get their grades. But they don't have the homework. Like they probably used that's been pressure from parents that they have not liked the idea the kids have loved the home. Is there a are there some noticeable differences between children who live on farms? Children who live in the town? No, not like you used to. There used to be you could tell when I first came you could almost tell that the dress it was a overalls of the kids. Kind of look tacky really, to a certain standard reports that people with some of the depending on what farms though, because no one Cheryl talks about when he went to school. You know, he was he fit right in with all the others. But when they first came here, and when they first came when I first came to teach the kids that came in from a country schools, they had the country school cannot come in because they consolidate most country kids were scared to come in. Because the kids were pretty mean to him, but I didn't see it. Because they had quite a time. Adjusting but now you don't see that at all. Because there's so much in and out. I think the kids aren't isolated in the country, but they used to be there in the summers to the swimming pool. Because the kids love to go home to the kids in the country because Asia versus Moses, so I didn't see them and you can't tell if the dressing and you could tell what the lunches you know, some of that person might get some of those that I think about didn't have too much. But now they take if you bring them in you don't see the difference in kids quite so much. Again, the country kids

are used to being around and shooting and I think when it comes to the driver some of them because they have given up they have some advantages

1:29:55

I still think the country kids probably had more to do

1:30:00

So they probably have more interests and anything's almost reversed.

1:30:09

Well, I think so. Because Tom doesn't have too much kids

1:30:25

Thank you very much. Very interesting