

ORAL HISTORY INTERVIEW
OF PAUL AND ANNA WHETSTONE
BY JUDY WESTMAN
AT THEIR HOME
MARCH 26, 2016

Q. This is Saturday, March 26, 2016. I am Judy Whetstone-Westman, and I am interviewing my parents, Paul and Anna Whetstone. So I'm going to ask them to give their full name and birthdate and place of birth.

Anna: My full name is Anna Marie Stahly Whetstone. I was born October 8, 1926, in Hastings, Nebraska.

Paul: I am Paul Marshall Whetstone. Born December 13, 1928, in Xenia, Ohio.

Q. So we'll probably go back and forth a bit here as we go through some of these questions but we'll start at the beginning and talk about your family and your early life. Mom, since you're the elder, we'll let you start first. Or age before beauty.

Anna: My father had his Master's degree in Science and was teaching in Hastings, Nebraska when I was born. What was the rest of that question?

Q. Your family and your early life. So just kind of leading up to how you chose Ohio State.

Anna: After my dad finished teaching high school, he went to Ames, Iowa, [to attend] Iowa State University, where he got his Ph.D. in Microbiology. Incidentally, that was the school that George Washington Carver had come to in Iowa, when it was an agriculture school. Then he got his Ph.D. in 1935, then they moved to Columbus, where he had a position at The Ohio State University. He came from a Swiss family, farmers in Nebraska. But they were always interested in advanced education. And so it was just natural for him to keep getting one degree after another. He met my mother at John Fletcher College in Iowa, which was a little church school. So I had ancestors who were

both from Switzerland and my mother, who was a mix of English and Irish. My father's brother, Ed, older brother, became a doctor and went to India as a missionary. Then he contracted tuberculosis in India and came back to this country. He was very influential in my life. He was the one who kind of inspired me to go into medicine.

Q. So did you have a lot of support from your family in general to go into medicine?

Anna: Oh, yes. I went for an MD. My sister became a nurse. My brother became a professor of Microbiology. Everybody in the family just naturally went on to college. And the reason I went back to Ohio State, I spent one year of college in Wheaton, Illinois. But I worked 3-4 hours a day for my room and board. After doing that for a year and not having much spare time, I thought I could live at home much more reasonably. So I came back and finished my education at Ohio State.

Q. So at that time your family was living on Fallis Road in the Clintonville area in Columbus?

Anna: At that time.

Q. So you lived there with your parents and then went to college at Ohio State after you had the year at Wheaton?

Anna: Right.

Q. Okay. Dad, how about your early life and how you ended up at Ohio State?

Paul: I was born very young. I was the first one in our family to go to college. I had no idea that I could do that. But in the 7th grade you had to make a choice whether you were going to go into the work force or take college preparatory courses and go to college. I had no idea I would go to college, so I signed up for drafting and woodworking and ironworking. It didn't take me about a semester of that to figure out that wasn't for me.

All my friends were taking the college course. So I switched and did that. I was always good in science and I had a biology teacher who thought I could do something, that I could become a doctor. So she encouraged me to pursue that. And that's all I ever thought about doing was being a physician. I didn't know how I was going to do that. I graduated in 1946. The war was over. And I just felt like I had to get going with doing something. So I started in summer school at Ohio State and lived at Baker Hall, which was the male residence hall. We were there one quarter and then they decided to make it a female hall. I think they felt if they could control the female population, that they'd have a better chance of controlling the males. We even marched downtown on the statehouse trying to get the decision reversed. But it didn't work. So after that then we had to find another place to live. In the summer quarter, the band director in Xenia was Zaner Zerkle, and he said I should try out for the band at Ohio State. So it wasn't very long, two or three weeks after I was at Ohio State, I went down to the old music building and he had given me the name of a professor to look up. So I went in and asked for him. And they said, "He's not here," but the fellow said, "Can I help you?" I said, "Well, yeah he told me to see him about being in the band." He says, "Okay, go find yourself a horn and we'll try you out." So I went into this big room and there were a dozen of these big sousaphones in big suitcases, big cases, and they were filthy. I was in there quite a while trying to find one I thought I could put the mouthpiece to my mouth. And finally he came in and said, "You having trouble finding one?" I said, "Well, they're so dirty." And he said, "Here, come back in." So he gave me a four-valve upright recording bass to play. I had never played a four-valve but he explained how, what the fourth valve did. He said, "You can leave it alone if you don't want to play it." So I tried out. He gave me some

stuff to read and I read it. He says, "Well, you play real well. I know you can march because Zaner Zerkle always has his band march. I think we've got a spot for you." And that was how I got into the band. I was in the band in 1946, 1947 and 1948. And then got into Medical School in '49 and didn't think I could do the band, too. But I chose Ohio State because it was a state school. It was supposed to be the cheapest school. I didn't know how I was going to pay for the first quarter. We had to scrounge enough money to pay the first quarter, then talked to Uncle JC. And he kind of laughed and thought it was foolish for me to try to go to college and wouldn't amount to anything. But he said, "I'll give you enough money for another quarter." So kind of quarter by quarter we had to go back and beg for more money to get through.

Q. Do you remember how much a quarter cost back then?

Paul: No.

Q. But miniscule by today's standards.

Paul: I think it was like \$1,200-\$1,500, something like that. It wasn't atrocious. Maybe even less than that. So my biology teacher's father taught biology at Ohio State. His name was Professor Grimm. So I signed up for his course in the summertime, and did quite well. In fact, I did well enough I didn't have to take the final. I remember the midterm. He brought the papers in to pass out and he made comments as he passed out the papers to each student. And he didn't give me my paper. And he went back up to the front of the class and said, "Everybody get a paper?" I said, "No, I didn't get my paper." He said, "You got a perfect score and that's never been done on this midterm, and I don't like that. I'll have to rewrite my midterm."

Q. And that was in what class?

Paul: Biology. Biology was always easy. So I thought medicine would be easy then, but it wasn't. But that was it. The only test I took. I didn't have to take any of the rest of them.

Q. That was kind of like a proficiency test.

Paul: I guess. When I was a senior and they came around and said, "You have to take the Ohio State Admission Test." And I said, "I took it." But they said, "You did so bad on it, there's no way you could get the grade you're getting, and score like you did on the admission test." Well, I'll have to confess, "I'm already in, why am I taking this admission test for?" So I just went check, check, check. So I had to retake it. Of course, it's a lot easier when you're a senior, to score well on that test. Anyway, that's my early life, I guess.

Q. So when you were at Ohio State, so you started in Baker Hall, and then what happened after the guys got kicked out of Baker Hall?

Paul: One of the other inmates, students, had lived up on Arden Road. I can't even remember the people's name now. And she rented out a room. So he took me up and introduced me. It was at the end of the, I can't think of the name of that road.

Q. Indianola?

Paul: Yes, up at the end of Indianola, about two blocks beyond where the bus stop was, was their house, about six or eight houses down from Indianola on Arden Road. It just happened to be the road. Fallis Road was just the road after it, I think. Anyway, so I shared a room there. I think the room was, it wasn't much, like \$5 a week or something. And I got \$15 a week to live on, to pay room and board and buy incidentals.

Q. So you said that the room was \$5. So you had \$10 then for your board and your incidentals?

Paul: Pomerene Hall had inexpensive food. So I'd eat there Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. And then Wednesday I would buy these little jars of cheese and a couple boxes of crackers. And I'd eat cheese and crackers Thursday, Friday, Saturday, and hopefully Sunday get invited out for dinner.

Q. So how did the two of you meet each other?

Anna: We met at church. Went to the Friends Church out on the Hilltop. And he had gone to the Friends Church in Xenia. And he had taken the bus out. I think he had to transfer then. And my father, if there were any students from Ohio State who had made it out to the church on Highland Avenue, he would take them back to the University. So he started inviting Paul to ride back with him. And then mother started inviting him over for Sunday dinner. And this poor starved student appreciated getting a good Sunday dinner. So we met at church. There was no connection with the University except a ride back from church. Then we started studying together, and then romance blossomed after that. So we were married in 1948.

Q. You were married on March 21, 1948. So you've just celebrated your 68th wedding anniversary.

Anna: Right.

Q. I won't ask how that's gone.

Paul: Well, pretty good. She's been married 68 years. I've been married 53. I threw out the bad years. Sorry.

Q. So you got married in 1948. Now, were you in medical school, mom?

Anna: I was a sophomore in medical school. Had finished two quarters. We got married at the break between the winter and the spring quarters. And then back into school. We made an

apartment at my parent's home upstairs. We had a one-bedroom apartment, not just a bedroom but the whole apartment. Made the closet into a kitchen, had a hot plate, washed our produce in the bathroom upstairs, cooked, and we lived very inexpensively. In those days, Kroger always closed on Saturday night. And so on Saturday night he would go down and get produce for the week. Sometimes he brought things that I had no idea how to use. Like he brought a grocery sack full of parsley one time.

Paul: It was only a nickel. They didn't have refrigeration, so they couldn't carry things over. So they threw them out. So then you could pretty much make an offer, they would take whatever you said you were going to pay for it.

Anna: We had a refrigerator in our one-bedroom apartment. Now you were, let's see, you were a sophomore.

Paul: Yeah, we really were but The Lantern published our wedding announcement, and they said a freshman in medical school to wed freshman in college. But there wasn't that much age difference really. I was 19 and you were 21.

Anna: Right, I didn't have to get my parents' permission but he had to.

Paul: Yeah, I had to get my parents' permission. Went down to the county, downtown Columbus to the courthouse to get our marriage license. And when we came out a flock of pigeons flew over and baptized us with ... Boy, I thought that was an omen. But anyway, that's how we started.

Q. So two years difference in age but a little more difference, three years in school. Because you got into Medical School after three years.

Anna: I got my Bachelor's degree in Science after my freshman year in medical school.

Q. It's still possible to do that in some situations.

Paul: I took extra courses, so I actually graduated in the spring of '49, and then went to Medical School the fall of '49. So actually I started in '46 and I really had just three years. In fact, I graduated from medical school in 1953, and I was 24 years old. I would not have been 25 until December. We graduated in June. And I was the second youngest person in the class. There was a fellow whose birthday was a week or so later than mine, Craig Wright. But we had a lot of old returning veterans and stuff.

Q. Did the veterans returning affect your getting into medical school?

Paul: Yeah, I had applied the year before which would be kind of dumb, but I did. And I was interviewed. And they said, "We can't let you in this year because of all the returning veterans, but we can kind of guarantee you a spot next year." So that's what they did.

Q. Now you had some interesting jobs in the summers while you were in school.

Paul: The second summer – I didn't go to summer school that first summer – the second summer I belonged to the Hod Carriers Union, and we built the new hospital. Before, the hospital was pretty much run down at that point. So I carried Hod for the next summer.

Q. And what you're calling the new hospital, I call the old hospital, because that's now what we call Doan Hall.

Paul: Yes. And then one summer in medical school I worked out at the poultry department doing research on what substance did the best job of cleaning the egg, the quickest, with the least amount of effort. And prevented the most *E. coli* penetrating the shell. And so we would have hundreds and hundreds of eggs. After we did all the experiments, we didn't open the egg and they would just throw them away. So I asked if we could take them home and eat them, and he said, "Sure." So we did that. We had lots of eggs.

Q. You're very resourceful.

Paul: I've been called other things. But the band, I don't know how they go now, I think they go by bus probably. But we went by train. And between the old music building and the Stadium was the steam-generating plant. And there was a railroad track there that they brought coal in to make the steam. And they would bring rail cars in and we would load up as a band, with the equipment and personnel. We'd have a couple hours' loading time and then a departure time, and then hook an engine to it and we went to Northwestern, to Illinois, to Indiana, to Purdue, to Michigan, all by train. And most of those places had tracks pretty close to the university, because they'd burn coal.

Q. So how many people were in the marching band?

Paul: 120.

Q. And how many cars?

Paul: Three or four or five. Because the cheerleaders would go, some of the coach's families, dignitaries, whatever. We only played Script Ohio maybe two or three times a year. Now I think they do it every game. But it was not a big deal when I was in the band. Script Ohio started in 1936 and in '46 it was just ten years old. And dotting the "i" was not a big honor. It was something they made the youngsters do, as punishment, I think. But now they've made it into a great honor. It's really something to be invited to dot the "i."

Q. So as a Sousaphone player in the band, how many times did you dot the "i" as punishment?

Paul: Well, just once. They only did it two or three times a year or so.

Q. And with 120 people in the band you didn't have two full rows of sousaphones.

Paul: We had ten sousaphones. We were in the K row. They would call your number, K1, K2. When they called K9, you always barked. When they called K9, your answer was to bark. A little trivia. We didn't have the sexual harassment and all that stuff.

Q. Well, you didn't have any women in the band, I don't think.

Paul: We didn't have any women. And I think most guys just wouldn't put up with a whole bunch of nonsense. They really wouldn't. Okay, I've talked too much.

Q. How about memories of while you were in medical school, some of the aspects of being a Medical student at that point?

Anna: The first year was predominantly lecture courses, with our Histology and Advanced Histology and Advanced Chemistry, Anatomy, and so forth. And then we started our clinical in the sophomore year. And as a medical student you would take the history and physical of the patient, write it up, and then order lab work. And then you had to draw the blood for all the lab work that was to be done. You didn't have to run the tests, but you had to draw the blood.

Paul: Well, now, down at St. Francis you had to do your own test, had to do your own blood counts and all that stuff. You did too. Because when you got aggravated that one time, you had done all that stuff.

Q. St. Francis is no longer in existence. It's now where Grant Hospital is, but it was torn down.

Anna: But it got all the acute stuff. It was primarily stabbings. Didn't have the shootings that they have in Columbus now. "Who did it?" "Well my friend stabbed me." I remember one night I had a terrible time working up a patient, and it took the whole evening. I

missed the owl car going home. It was maybe 1 or 2 o'clock in the morning when I finally got an Owl car.

Q. What is an Owl car?

Anna: Every hour.

Paul After midnight they just ran one car and it was called the Owl car. Only owls should be up at that hour.

Anna: Got off at the bottom of High Street on Fallis Road and walked up. I think I cried all the way up because I was so tired and wasn't sure the patient was going to make it. I got up to 351 Fallis Road in our apartment, and I told him I was through, that I was going to quit. And he said, "Just finish out this quarter and things will look better." So he encouraged me. But that was a very miserable night. Back then, too, we also did a lot more OB. I don't know how much OB medical students get now.

Q. There's a few weeks, but I would say that a medical student might have one or two or three deliveries in a six-week period. How much experience did you have with OB?

Anna: There were two homes in Columbus, the Friends Rescue Home and the Florence Crittenden Home, where unwed mothers went and stayed until after they had their babies. And as medical students we delivered babies in both of those homes, under the supervision of a Dr. Davis.

Q. So you actually went to the home to do the delivery? The women didn't come to the hospital?

Anna: No. They delivered there.

Paul: I think we were required to have about the same number of deliveries as autopsies. I think it was about a dozen or 15 or something like that.

Anna: And we occasionally had a complete home delivery, if it was a multip-patient that had easy deliveries, they would let them deliver at home.

Q. And you had to attend autopsies as well.

Paul: I think you had a dozen or 15 or so. And I won't mention names, but one night I got called out for an autopsy. They had picked up a vagrant, an old tramp, and laid him up on the table, and did the job. In the process of cleaning off the table, when they said, "Well, we've got another one, if you'll stick around you'll get two tonight." So they laid one of the wealthy people of Columbus up on the same table that the old transient was, and did the autopsy. So I got two autopsies that night. We did home deliveries but I think my class was the last one to do home, in-home deliveries. They lost either a baby or a mother in a home delivery, and I think that was the thing that stopped the home deliveries. Now we still did deliveries in those two, the Crittenden Home and Friends Rescue Home. Crittenden Home was down close to the old Mercy Hospital on South High, and the Friends Rescue was out on the west side, someplace just in the bottoms on West Broad.

Q. Okay. So when you graduated, mom you graduated in 1950?

Anna: Yes.

Q. And dad you graduated in 1953?

Paul: Right.

Q. So we had three years there where you had graduated and dad was still going to Medical School. So what did you do in that time period?

Anna: Dr. Pavey, Dr. Charles Pavey, was an OB-GYN specialist. And he was looking for someone to be his assistant go with him on deliveries, make his house calls on his patients, to be a pediatrician for the patients that delivered. The head of the OB residency

at Mt. Carmel called him up and said, “I have somebody I think would be real good for you to have as an assistant.” And he gave Dr. Pavey my name and [Pavey] said he wouldn’t consider having a woman as his assistant. And Dr. Pelegrant said, “Well, you should consider this one,” and talked him into it. We had a wonderful association for three years. He taught me. He would have been called your mentor. If he had an interesting case, my office was on the second floor of his building at 2265 North High Street, if he had an interesting patient or something he would call me down to see things. And I went with him on all his deliveries at Mt. Carmel and St. Ann’s. None of them at the University. But it was like an assistantship.

Q. A fellowship is very much what that is. In that era, after you graduated from medical school, you did a year of rotating experience as an intern?

Anna: That’s right.

Q. And both of you did your internships at Mt. Carmel, correct?

Paul: Correct.

Q. And then so after that year, you could become a generalist?

Anna: Now, it’s interesting because there were 75 members in my class. The majority of them were fellows returning from the service. Many of them were married and a number of them had children. And I looked in my Caducean yearbook and out of 75, 45 said they were going into general practice.

Q. Seventy-five people in your class, how many women?

Anna: Five.

Q. Five women.

Anna: I can't speak for the others but I think it's the same, treated royally. There wasn't any discrimination from the fellows. No problem at all. As long as we did our work.

Q. After – Dad, you finished your internship at Mt. Carmel, then ...?

Paul: We were out looking for a place to set up practice. We had gone to Wilmington and a few other places. Richard Zollinger was at that point Chief of Surgery at Mt. Carmel. And he said, "My hometown needs a doctor." So we came out and looked at Millersport. Millersport is the hometown of Richard and Robert Zollinger. They are both buried in the local cemetery. And if you want to read all of their honors and degrees and so forth, read their tombstones. It's very elaborate. They have everything listed from the service, what they did in the war, to what they did academically, too. So we came out and looked at Millersport, and it looked like it was alive, and lot of old towns were dying. So we chose Millersport. I came out here the first of July of 1954, and she continued to work for Dr. Pavey for two or three months. Then she came out October, November – I don't know for sure. And was here in 1954, settled in, had bought a house and a practice, and had gotten notice that I was going to be drafted. I had signed up. You had to sign up for the draft. So I signed up in Franklin County. They had to supply doctors. They had to supply doctors to get me, because I was in Fairfield County. So sometime in September I got a notice that I had been made available to the service, to the Navy, for drafting, which thrilled me to death. I had no idea that they even knew where I was. So in January of '55 I left for the Navy. They weren't drafting regular soldiers or sailors, but they were still drafting doctors. So I left for the Navy and she stayed here in practice. We had a six-week old little baby boy and a two-year-old boy. She stayed in practice and I went off to the Navy for two years.

Q. So how was that?

Anna: It kept me extremely busy. But the thing that made it all possible was being in a small town you could get good help. And the very finest one I had, Gracie Wolfe, whose husband told her when I asked if she would be interested in helping babysit, he said, "That's your responsibility, Gracie," to help this young doctor. And also, those two years there were times when my parents came out one of the summers and stayed here, and dad drove back and forth to Ohio State. And his parents, his dad retired in Xenia, they came out. You didn't mention in the things that appealed to us [when choosing to set up practice in Millersport], the fact was the closeness to Buckeye Lake. And they bought a home on Buckeye Lake. And all I'd have to do if I didn't have a babysitter in the evening or something, was call them up and say, "I have to go to the hospital for a delivery." And they said, "We'll be right over." So I had wonderful help.

Paul: Gracie Wolfe said that she would stay until I got back. And how many years was she here?

Anna: I'd have to look it up.

Paul: Fifteen or 20.

Q. Wasn't she here all the way until I finished high school?

Paul: I think so. You were born in '57 and graduated from high school in '75. So that's 20 years.

Anna: And then after Grace came Dorothy Bruce. She was married later to Greg Coyle. And she's been here for years. And still is here.

Q. She came after I went off to college, and is still here helping.

Paul: You're right. There was the lake. And we also kind of fell in love with the house. It's kind of funny but the doctor that was here, Dr. King, there had been four doctors starting with K, Dr. Kramer, Dr. Kirtch, Dr. Koontz, and Dr. King. Frank King was two years ahead of me, graduated from Ohio State. And he said that he had to move, that they were killing him here. And I kind of thought he was maybe a wimp. But he moved to Circleville and he did die a couple of years later. So he must have had some medical issues. So anyway, we fell in love with the house. The house was \$18,000 and a local bank had a loan limit of \$10,000. That's all they could loan to one person was \$10,000. So the bank president loaned us the rest of the money. And we bought the practice, the contents of the office, paid rent for the building, but we bought what was in the office and some accessories. Drapes for the house and that kind of stuff. And at that time the office that we were in did not have indoor plumbing. It had an outhouse. Now this is 1954. We had indoor plumbing here at the house. But the office, we had an outhouse. And we didn't get, we got sewer in the middle 60's, and water a couple of years later than that, city water, city sewer. So it was kind of funny to send people out to the outhouse to get a urine specimen in 1954. That's the way it was.

Anna: We had cistern water in the back room. That office was terrible.

Q. The first one.

Anna: The first one, yeah. There was a waiting room with linoleum and plastic chairs sitting around. Then the next was a big room, open room, with an examining table and a desk for the doctor. Then the next room was where you put the supplies and also the X-ray table. But we modernized it while we were there. We walled off part of the second room and

got another examining table, so that we had two little rooms with doors on them, so there was a little privacy for the patients.

Paul: Before we added these two little rooms, the room was probably 30 by 30 maybe. So we just took off 12 feet at one end and made two little rooms. But before that, the examining table faced the open door, that people came in and out of. If you were doing a pelvic I don't know exactly how that would go.

Anna: It was primitive.

Paul: And then there was a third room that had a sink. When we moved in, there were two big whiskey bottles. So somebody must have been used to having a snort now and then. And then there was a sink with a cistern. So I came back from the service and the girls were saying that they were using that cistern water to make coffee. I said, "Do you realize that when you pour your urine specimen down the sink, it goes right down in to that cistern?" Because there just a pipe that dead-ended right on the dirt.

Anna: It was flavorful coffee.

Paul: It gave it body, I guess.

Q. But didn't it filter through?

Paul: No, you could see where the rivulets would run right into the cistern. They were dumped down about three feet from the cistern. The pump was here. It kind of just went right into the cistern water.

Q. How long were you in that office before you moved?

Anna: Well, we went in '54. He got out of the Navy in...

Paul: January of 1957.

Q. And I was born in November 1957.

Anna: When he came out he realized that we had to have something decent.

Paul: While I was in the Navy I drew up some plans of how, they had taught us kind of, we had a whole class on how to set up a practice and what you needed and all this kind of stuff. So one of the first things we bought was an X-ray machine. Paid \$2,250, I think, the book says, for an X-ray machine. It did good X-rays. Built a dark room. Did basically long bones and chest. And we actually moved that one and built a more modern office into that office. We lined the walls with eight-inch lead, so it [provided a shield from] the X-rays. The other thing was one of the first things we were told we needed was a myringotomy knife. The middle of the night, the baby's crying, and you've got to put a little slit in the ear drum to relieve his severe pain he is having from otitis media. Bought one of those things. Never used it, fortunately. But that was something we were supposed to buy. There were a lot of things that you wouldn't dare do now in practice. We delivered 930 babies.

Anna: Over 900 babies between the two of us.

Paul: And we quit delivering in 1972. So from 1954 to 1972 we delivered – I thought the book says 930, but I may be wrong.

Q. The book you're referring to, you kept a log book of deliveries.

Anna: We put the mother's name, the sex of the baby, the date of course, and anything unusual about the delivery.

Q. Forceps.

Paul: Most of them were forceps. But we did not write down who delivered the baby. So we don't know unless somebody says, "Well you delivered me," which one of us delivered. A couple of years ago, checking out of Kroger, and this lady says, the checkout girl, she

said, "You're responsible for me being here." I said, "Oh?" She said, "Yes. Fifty years ago you delivered me." I said, "Well would you kind of rephrase that a little bit?" But we did not know. A large percentage were forceps deliveries because that saves the pounding on the baby's head. And if you can deliver forceps, you can really, we thought it was the best way to deliver.

Q. Now there are four of us. My two brothers were born before you went to the Navy, then I was born right after, and then brother Jim is the final one.

Anna: Four years later.

Q. Mom, there are stories of you delivering babies when you were pregnant, with child.

Anna: There's one,

Q. Clark, John Clark.

Paul: Yes, John Clark.

Anna: About six weeks before I delivered Jim, I was delivered of Jim, delivering babies. Dr. Pavey taught me a lot about deliveries, and a lot about gynecologic care. And when we came out here we introduced the pap smear to the community. And a couple of years later, a lady came up from the hospital, a nurse, and wanted to tell me about pap smears and how great they were. I said, "Well, I've been doing pap smears ever since I started practicing medicine."

Paul: And the thing was, we were not sending the pap smears to the local hospital to be read. We had a mailing service and they were mailed into Dr. Davidson's lab, who was the pathologist at Mt. Carmel. And they had these little cardboard cylinders with hard metal ends, and you would put the slides in there and mail them off. And then they would send back a report.

Anna: I don't think the pathologists were doing them at Lancaster then.

Paul: No, they weren't. Back when you first, tell them about your Rh baby.

Anna: I delivered a baby and I wanted to know the baby's blood type. They had a very primitive lab down there at that time. This young man said, "Blood type on a baby? I didn't know they had blood types."

Paul: Now this is 1954.

Q. So you all were fairly progressive for the region?

Anna: I think so.

Paul: I thought, when we built our office in 1957, it was the best in the country. And I think today the one we have is probably the best in the country, as a private doctor's office.

Q. When did you first introduce an electronic medical record?

Paul: Well, I got interested in computers in the early '80s. And that was when it was very early.

Q. That's pre-Internet.

Paul: Oh yeah. We set up our first computer system, a digital equipment company, and we had a mini-mainframe, and we backed up to a big 12-inch magnetic reels. Every night you backed this up. And it was basically the name, address, medical record and such, except you would have the diagnosis and the charge, that kind of stuff. And then we've had multiple systems since then. But we were doing electronic charting about three years ago is when we started actually doing electronic charting with the tablets.

Anna: I'm not sure that's such a great thing.

Q. But you had an electronic billing system, capturing things from the beginning, early there, and then transitioned to getting the charting. And you used tablets in the rooms? How long did you all practice? When did you stop practicing?

Anna: 2000, January.

Paul: We practiced 46 years together. It was the same office. And never had a lawsuit, I think, because we were just kind of part of the families. We went to their weddings. We went to their funerals. Not everybody, but the ones that we knew. And today, with emergency-room-type medicine, you don't see the patient and don't have the rapport. And I think the lawsuits come largely from that, not so much ... I'm sure we made mistakes but being human you do make mistakes. You're not perfect. At least I wasn't. She might have been.

Q. So the business side of the practice, dad you were very ...

Paul: You say that but ...

Anna: I think that's very true.

Q. Aren't you still involved in the business side of the office down there?

Paul: No, I'm the janitor now. Not a very good one at that. No, I go down every day but I have my own desk, my two computers, television, and comfortable chair. I get away from Dorothy.

Q. So you go down there and play Solitaire and games on the computer?

Paul: I have five checkbooks that I write checks out of and that kind of stuff. But I really have nothing to do with the clinic. We walked away and we took nothing out. When Jim came I decided that the worst thing I could do would be to micro-manage the practice. So it's been his practice since 1990. And we retired in 2000. That's 16 years. January 1, 2000.

Anna: You really lose a lot.

Q. After retiring?

Anna: Yeah.

Q. I know, I've been retired for nine months but I had to go back to work. Take a little pause here. So we all define success in different ways. How would you define success when looking at life through your personal view?

Paul: As I've said, I don't think I've been particularly successful. I did a lot of things. It's kind of like Yogi Berra says, "When you come to a fork in the road take it." Well that's kind of what life has been like to me. I've come to the place where I have to make a decision, and I try to make the best decision of what I have available to do. Sometimes it's right; sometimes it's not. We never really started out to make a lot of money in medicine, in fact our fees were probably the lowest in the county. Jim complained when he came to join us that our fees were so low, we weren't charging anyone more than Medicare would allow.

Q. That's pretty low.

Paul: That was pretty low back then. Now it's pretty good. But since then the other insurance companies have downgraded. We made more money in real estate than we made in the practice of medicine, that's for sure.

Anna: But I define success as whether you leave things a little better than they were when you came. Or that the lives that you touched are a little bit better off because you've been there. We haven't been phenomenally successful people, but we've had a very satisfying life. And have, I think, a lot of love from the community.

Q. What legacy do you think?

Anna: My kids. They've accomplished something.

Paul: When I started to practice, the previous doctors had taken the money out of the community and invested it elsewhere. And I decided I wasn't going to do that. If I made

the money here, I was going to put it back in the community. That's kind of what we did. We bought and sold lots of properties. The local insurance company says that we are responsible for changing the face of Millersport more than anybody else that's been here. But we did. We tore down a bunch of junk buildings. I quit too soon. There are a few junk buildings that I didn't tear down. But I don't know. Legacy, I think the children. We have four kids. We have a son in Texas, heaven knows what he's doing. I think he's flying airplanes, or was. We have a pharmacist. We have you, an MD. We have Jim, an MD. I don't know. What legacy do we have?

Q. If you could give a message to the next generation, or let's say your grandchildren or great-grandchildren, what message would you give? The next generation. We're a little too late.

Anna: Going into medicine or into any field for the money. Go into it if you want to, if you really like people and care for people.

Paul: I think if you just want to make money I'd go into computers. My computer expert makes more than our family doctors do. And we have a family doctor who pays himself \$300,000 a year. But our computer people, they charge \$300 an hour. Very few positions, other than some high-priced surgeons, make that kind of money. So you don't go into it for the money.

Q. We can charge \$300 an hour but we're not going to get paid \$300 an hour.

Paul: Right.

Anna: Did we push you into medicine in any way?

Q. No, you didn't push me at all. I kind of made that decision kicking and screaming. It took me a long time to come to that conclusion, but it was after I was looking at what my

personal interests were. Growing up with you both in family medicine, in a small town, and doing the deliveries, it was occasionally challenging from a family life perspective.

Anna: You talk about being loved by the community. The pharmacist son, Dave, is really loved by his community around Thornville, for all those good things he is able to do for people and his caring for people.

Q. So did we miss anything that you would like to talk about?

Paul: Two pearls of wisdom here. I had a doctor, we had a whole course on how to set up a medical practice. And I'll never forget, he says, "If you're going to be a doctor, dress like a doctor." I think we've lost that altogether. I don't think that now you can hardly tell the doctor from the patient. And the other thing he said, "If somebody complains in an area, examine the area." Now the tendency is to sit across the table, talk to them, make a diagnosis from history, and write prescriptions, and not touch the patient. We did a lot of pelvics. I don't think the present doctors do six a month. We do that many a day, lots of times, or more. Everybody that came for a physical got a pelvic, got an abdominal exam, got a rectal exam. If somebody was having back pain, you measured their legs for atrophy. Some measure up from the patella, the circumference. They don't do that stuff anymore. They just don't. They order the lab tests, order the MRI.

Q. When in doubt, take a look at the patient.

Paul: Yeah.

Anna: The thing closest, I think, our faith has been very important to us too. And so our faith and our family and the profession is one in which you can care for people.

Paul: You're talking about legacy. We still have one of the best, if not the best, medical facilities in the county. We have three doctors in the facility. I was responsible, we were

responsible, for getting the drugstore to come to Millersport. So we have a good drugstore. We have a good bank. We have a good hardware store. We have a good marina. The village has not grown like I thought it would. I think we're still hovering around 900 people in the village city limits.

Q. And a traffic light at a T-intersection.

Anna: But you can't sit in the bank steps anymore and watch the traffic light.

Q. It was the pizza shop steps that I used to sit on and watch the traffic light change.

Paul: But it hasn't grown. I thought maybe by this time we'd have 3,000 people in Millersport. But not the case. But we don't have any traffic jams. We can get to work in two minutes and it's still safe to walk the streets.

Q. Well, thank you for talking about your lives. We'll send this on the archivist.