

RAYMOND S. BUGNO  
JUNE 3, 2005

Q. This is Tom Sweeney and I'm interviewing Raymond S. Bugno as part of the oral history project. This is June 3, 2005. And Ray, I'd like to start off by asking you, Raymond, where you were born?

A. I was born in Columbus, Ohio on March 25, 1921. And I was born down on a street called Conklin Avenue, which is just a block north of Goodale Street. Old Goodale Street, in an area they used to call Fly Town. Fly Town, I guess they called it that, because the houses and so forth grew up so fast. And this was an area where there were a lot of Italian people and Irish people that lived down there. All working people. That's where I was born. And I lived on Conklin Avenue, then later on I lived on Delaware Avenue, and later on Pennsylvania Avenue. The last street was Pennsylvania Avenue where I lived and before we came up to the University area.

Q. Let me ask you about your parents, Ray. Were they born here?

A. No, both of my parents came from the town of Pisa, Italy.

Q. Where the tower is?

A. Where the tower is. Tower of Pisa. My dad came over here in 1913 and my mother came over in 1920, after he was over here seven years. He sent money to her for her trip and expenses. They were more or less engaged during that period of time.

Q. So they knew each other over there.

A. They knew each other. My mother arrived in Columbus, Ohio in early June of 1920. The bands of matrimony were published and they were married at St. John the Baptist Church on Hamlet Street in the latter part of June, 1920. Nine months later, after they got married, I was born.

Q. So you're the oldest.

A. I'm the oldest. I have a brother that is deceased now. He was 2 ½ years younger than I am. I still have a sister. She is still living and she lives up north in Powell. She is 6 ½ years younger than I am.

Q. So there were three of you?

A. Three of us.

Q. That was a small Italian family.

A. A small Italian family. I grew up with a lot of Italians. Of course my parents were immigrants too, as you probably know very well. I knew a lot of Italian families, great families. We've lived among the Irish and Italian people. The Italians made the wine; the Irish drank it and they used to quarrel.

Q. I understand completely. I was in that same milieu.

A. Anyway, my father and my mother, I give them a lot of credit for having at least some foresight. They didn't have much education. My dad, I think, went through the 4<sup>th</sup> grade. Then he had to quit to support his family because his dad got hurt in the foundry. My mother, she attended eight grades of schooling over there. My dad always called her, she was the rich one, because her dad had a farm that grew cabbage and cauliflower. But anyway, I give them credit because with the education they had, they had a sense of responsibility and foresight and

perception. And in 1930, on Valentine's Day, February 14<sup>th</sup>, we moved up north from Pennsylvania Avenue to Woodruff Avenue, 278 West Woodruff Avenue, Our living room was right where the current OSU College of Business is now located along with the Blackwell Hotel. That's where we lived, from 1930 until 1941. My dad and mom were paying \$20 a month rent down on Pennsylvania Avenue; they paid \$30 a month at the West Woodruff Avenue location.

Q. Let me ask you a question about that. Was it close to the University, cause I had one of my nephews lived on Pennsylvania when he was going to school here. One of my sons used to live there for a while. Part of Pennsylvania is close to the University.

A. On Pennsylvania we lived between Collins Avenue and Buttles Avenue. Now Buttles Avenue was where St. Francis Church and elementary school were located and that is where I went to school for the first three grades before we moved up to the Woodruff Avenue area. We exchanged Valentine's that day at school, I remember and it was sort of a sad day for me as we moved up north.

Q. It surely would have been a sad day. So you lived on Woodruff and across the street almost from the stadium too.

A. Right in the shadows of it. Matter of fact, as I started to say, my dad was paying \$20 a month rent down on Pennsylvania Avenue. The rent up on Woodruff Avenue was \$30, which was something that he could afford but he had to stretch it; a \$10 increase in rent during this period of time was a significant amount for my parents.

Q. That's a 50% increase.

- A. We moved up there when I was about nine years old. I was nine in March and I moved up there in February.
- Q. Where did your dad work?
- A. He worked at various places when he first arrived over here. Ironically, he worked for the Olin Bishop Saw Company which was located on Michigan Avenue. He worked at various other places including the gas company laying gas lines, and for the railroad.
- Q. Pennsylvania Railroad?
- A. Yes.
- Q. A lot of Italian men worked there.
- A. Oh yes. Then around 1926 he was hired by Tony Aquilla at the stadium. Tony Aquilla was the first groundskeeper of the University at the stadium. L.W. St. John hired him. L.W. St. John, who was the OSU Athletic Director. St. John became Athletic Director in 1913. And he hired Tony because he was the hardest worker. Tony hired a lot of people, most of them at the beginning were Italian.
- Q. He didn't hire a guy named Guaraci, did he?
- A. Yes, Tony Aquilla hired Ralph Guaraci.
- Q. Was Ralph Guaraci Tony's son-in-law?
- A. No. Ralph Guaraci wasn't Tony's son-in-law. But anyway, my dad eventually was recommended by Tony to Paul Elleman. And Paul Elleman hired my dad in 1928 in the physical facilities, formerly called the Service Department in those days. Mr. Elleman was Director of the Department.
- Q. So your father worked for the University from what years?

- A. He worked, I think, from about 1926 until the time he died. He died in January 1954.
- Q. He must have been 62 years old.
- A. He was. He died young. My mother when she died was closer to 100 years old.
- Q. So the paycheck was from the University at that time too.
- A. That's right. We were, as I said, he decided even to sacrifice to raise the rent up to \$30. But he was making about \$20 a week, roughly \$80-95 a month I think. And we rented from Tony Aquilla. He owned the house we rented from He lived at the end of Neil Avenue which deadended into Woodruff Avenue. And then it jogs up to the present Archer house and continues as Neil Avenue North to the old Olentangy amusement park.
- Q. So Tony Aquilla lived very close to you?
- A. Oh yes, matter of fact. I grew up with his kids, Chic, Navy, Edith and Bob. He named all his children after University people. Tony did. He named his oldest son Charles, after Chick Harley. Navy, he named after the Navy football team. Edith was named after Edith Cockins, who was the University Registrar I believe. And Bobby was Bobby Watts, a center on the football team. All Buckeyes. They lived right at the end of Neil Avenue. The Archer House used to be called the Neil Gable Apartments, Neil Avenue continued on northwest to North Street, a block north of Dodridge Street.
- Q. I know a kid lived in Neil Gables, right in front.
- A. Oh, I was a drug store cowboy there.
- Q. Were you? Was Neil Gables always an apartment or were there businesses?

- A. No, it was always an apartment. And at the north end of the apartment there was a restaurant operated by a widowed mother.
- Q. There was a restaurant at Neil Gables.
- A. Yes. At the north end of Neil Gables.
- Q. Kevin lived right in the middle in the front of course for a couple of years.
- A. Well, I used to be the drugstore cowboy there.
- Q. What does that mean?
- A. I'd hang around, look at the magazines, watch them play pinball games. I got to know a lot of veterinarian students. For some reason the veterinarian students congregated over there and played the pinball games. One of the guys that I remember, his name should be familiar to you, a guy by the name of Harold Zigg. He was a real estate man.
- Q. Oh yes.
- A. He got his first job there at the Neil Gables as manager of that complex.
- Q. We're thinking about the same building that still exists there.
- A. Yes.
- Q. The one at the corner of Neil.
- A. That's right. The drugstore was owned by a family named Dorflinger.
- Q. There was a drugstore in that building?
- A. Oh yes. That's where I was.
- Q. Okay. So there was a drugstore and a restaurant on the ground floor.
- A. Right. The drugstore was on the south end of the apartments. The restaurant was on the north end. Harold Zigg got his start there. I'm smiling because he had a

secretary. Here I am, about 18 years old. And he had a secretary named Audrey. She had a figure like an hourglass.

Q. I think I know where this is going.

A. She was very private. She'd come in the drugstore and have lunch or do some purchasing of items. But everybody noticed her. In fact, back in those days traffic went through Neil Avenue. She used to leave his office at 5:00 p.m. and walk down Neil Avenue towards the hospital, medical center, to meet her fiancée, a medical student to whom she was engaged. I can tell you a lot of dents in fenders occurred when they came through the campus driving, cause she got their attention. Anyway, I've always been thankful about the move that my mother and dad made, coming North to the University area, because I was able to receive an education by just living there.

Q. That's what I want to ask you about next. What was it like living so close to the University in terms of interacting with students, with the football crowds, with just everything that went on there?

A. That's right. And we were right there. Now my kids laugh at me when I tell them that when I used to play out in the street, Woodruff Avenue had asphalt on it.

Q. Now were there houses on both sides or just on one side?

A. Where we lived there was just on one side because just across the street was the campus. When you go past the Archer House and the Neil Gables, on the south side of that Woodruff Avenue was the campus. The chemical engineering building. Joe Koffalt was chairman of the department.

Q. It wasn't there when you were there.

- A. That's right. When I was there, that area where the chemistry building and the chemical engineering building used to be wooden framed barracks. They were World War I vintage. And those were offices for the ROTC.
- Q. But the residences were just on your side?
- A. Just on our side. And across the street from us was the railroad tracks. They had a spur that came off the Chesapeake and Ohio Railroad, the line there, because they used to carry coal to the OSU Powerhouse. The trains used to carry passengers to the north end of the stadium area to see the football games.
- Q. I think that stopped right before I got here. I remember people talking about it.
- A. The people used to get off the train dressed up with ties, hats, coats and go to the football game. What is now Woody Hayes Drive, we called it the "concrete road." Our house was located across from Ives Hall, the Agricultural Engineering Building in those days.
- Q. Did that go across the river in your day?
- A. Across the river. Now where I lived on 278, next door to us was a family called Conway. He was the equipment man down at the University Athletic Department in the football stadium. His name was Earl Conway. Then on the corner was a combination restaurant and store and they used to have some people live there rent out rooms. For example, a couple of the sergeants that taught ROTC lived year round.
- Q. This would be across from Neil Gables or the other way?
- A. No, no, this was west of Neil Gables. I'm down here where the business college is.



Q. The street was Tuttle then?

A. That's right. It was Tuttle. That's correct. And on the corner was a man named Ford. He was a black man. He was the University mailman. He drove a yellow Model T car and that's what he used to carry the mail for the whole University.

Q. Did he work for the University?

A. Yes, he worked for the University. The University had its own post office located on the campus. He carried mail for the University and he carried it for the whole University. They had back in those early days one policeman. His name was Bill North. He was the chief of police. Later he had one assistant named Browning. (I can't remember his first name.)

Q. As you go across Tuttle was the Varsity, was that building there at that time?

A. No. The Varsity Inn or club, you're talking about is on west Lane Avenue east of the current Holiday Inn.

Q. That's right. I'm off.

A. We're on Woodruff and Tuttle. And then the next street over was Frambes Avenue north of Woodruff Avenue and north of Frambes was then Lane Avenue. Going west from where we lived on west Woodruff Avenue across Tuttle, there used to be homes located down there running west to where St. John Arena is located.

Q. Where St. John Arena is?

A. That's right. Down to the river. The University owned those properties. And those properties were occupied by people that worked for the University and were supervisors of the various trades. For example, they had the plumbing foreman

down there. They had the electrical foreman. They had the painting foreman. And they used to rent those out to those people and adjust their salaries to take care of the rent. That served the University well because they were right there in case of emergency.

Q. And they all had families and you interacted with their kids.

A. We did. That's exactly right. And then further west, after the houses ended, (there were about half a dozen houses) was the University dump. That's where St. John Arena is located and it was built over the dump. And that's why they had to go down so deep and to get the piling down there. But they used to deliver all the dump from University, particularly the hospital area. And you talk about environmental conditions. Where we lived, if the wind was blowing just right in the summertime, and they burned the trash, smoke would go up and drift eastward toward where we lived. Wow! What a smell!

Q. Would they burn that every night?

A. No, just periodically as I recall.

Q. I'm familiar with such places. I know sometimes they burn them every day; sometimes years ago.

A. But they burnt their trash. That's where the dump was and that's where the St. John Arena was built over there.

Q. Let me ask you a question here. Where did you go to school?

A. I went to a Catholic elementary school called Holy Name. It was located at Adams and East Patterson Avenues.

Q. I know it well. One of my children was married there.

- A. No kidding! Is that right? That's interesting. We used to walk there.
- Q. That wasn't too bad, was it?
- A. Winter, summer, we didn't think anything about it.
- Q. They didn't bust you.
- A. Later on, we did think about going to Aquinas High School but I couldn't play football because I was too small. I didn't weigh enough. So I ended up going to Indianola Junior High up at 19<sup>th</sup> and North 4<sup>th</sup>. And later I went to North High School for my sophomore, junior and senior years. We walked to school on a daily basis all these years.
- Q. You walked to North High?
- A. Oh yes. That was a hike. I used to come home once in a while for lunch from Holy Name if I had my skates. But we used to walk. We thought nothing about it.
- Q. Was Holy Name a big school? Did you have a lot of kids?
- A. We had eight grades.
- Q. Two of each or one of each?
- A. No, one of each. We had Catholic nuns or sisters teaching us. And I played football, basketball, baseball at Holy Name. At North I didn't play football because I was too small. I played a little basketball and baseball.
- Q. North was a place where a lot of Columbus leaders went.
- A. Oh yes. North High was the school. But you see back in those days that's all there was. They didn't have Linden McKinley or other high schools in the north end.

- Q. They probably had North, Central, and South, and East and West.
- A. The league was North, South, East, West, Central, and the Aquinas High Schools.
- Q. So that was it.
- A. That was the city league.
- Q. Okay. I interrupted you, Ray, and I didn't mean to do that, but I wanted to get in exactly what your schooling was and such.
- A. I had a good education at Holy Name Elementary, Indiana Junior High and North High. They taught us well.
- Q. You probably had to diagram sentences.
- A. That's right, oh yes, gosh. Not only that, but penmanship. I remember the junior high teachers saying to me, "You must have gone to the Catholic School." I said, "Yes, that's right."
- Q. Let me ask you about your jobs. Before you started working at the University, did you ever have a job?
- A. I carried and sold newspapers. I carried The Columbus Dispatch.
- Q. Afternoon paper than of course.
- A. That's right. And back in those days we had the Morning Journal. I carried the Dispatch in the afternoon. The Columbus Citizen was published in late and the Columbus Dispatch Peach was published as an extra edition in late afternoon.
- Q. And did you carry the two editions?
- A. No, I just carried the Dispatch. And at night the Dispatch published the Columbus Journal Green. You'd go to the movies and come out and you'd have the Journal Green. Isn't that something?

Q. Well, they didn't have television news.

A. That's right, they had radio. A little radio. So I carried The Dispatch and I worked out of Station 17, which was a Dispatch station in back of St. Stephen's Church, off of West Woodruff and High. And that's where I worked out of. I carried The Dispatch there for several years. In fact, one of my routes was up around Iuka Avenue in the fraternity area. I carried L.W. St. John's paper when he lived up on Iuka Avenue, L.W. St. John, was at that time the OSU Athletic Director. And then we used to also had The Star. The Star was the hot dirty paper. They really pushed you to sell the Star. The publisher wanted you to bring in the money. You were made to understand to get rid of the papers and pay for them. I wouldn't do it. But anyway, I had a good route and I carried papers.

When I was 14 years old, my dad had a friend who had a haberdashery business up in Linden. He hired me for the summer. I learned to press clothes. I learned to sell clothes. I used to walk up to High Street and take the bus and go down to Chittenden Avenue, transfer to the Chittenden Avenue car line going East, take another transfer to Cleveland Avenue, and then north on Cleveland Avenue to Genessee Avenue, where I worked there. I made \$5.00 a week. Worked six days a week during the summer. Worked until 10:00 p.m. on Saturday nights.

Q. Those would have been tough years for people.

A. 1935, when Wiley Post crashed up in Alaska with the comedian Will Rogers. I was working there at the time. I asked for a dollar raise from the owner, and I had to get on my knees and beg. But I worked for it. I finally got the dollar raise.

Q. So did you work other than summers for him?

- A. Just summers there. After that, I worked summers on the University campus horticulture farms down on Lane and Kenny Road.
- Q. Lane and Kenny. How old were you when you first went to work for Ohio State?
- A. Again, I worked summers there for two or three summers, making twenty-five cents an hour.
- Q. Roughly what years would that have been?
- A. Well, my first paycheck from the University was under George W. Rightmire, so that was when he was there completing the end of his tenure in 1937. I worked there '36, '37 and '38 in the farm during the summer. I as well as other high school kids worked for a professor named was H.D. Brown out of H&F (Horticulture and Forestry). But Milt Austin was the manager of that farm. He reported to H.D. Brown.
- Q. What were your duties? Did you plant crops?
- A. Oh yes, weeding, picking apples and other menial maintenance tasks.
- Q. Did you get credit for that?
- A. I don't know how much of that I got. But I did get credit for the work I did when I was in college and working for the inventory department, because I worked four hours per day every day and half day on Saturdays.
- Q. Let me ask you a question about the football games, going back to just the, kind of interacting with the University. Did you ever work in the stadiums selling Coke or anything like that?
- A. No, I didn't do that, but we used to go over there and hunt for money, cigarettes and other things that the people left after games and after the stadium was empty.

But we used to attend some of the games. And in those days they used to let us in the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter free. They opened the gates. And then later on, high school students would attend the games for 25 cents.

Q. They weren't full in those days?

A. They weren't full in those days, that's correct.

Q. All of my kids sold Coke at the stadium. That's why I thought maybe that was a job you would have had.

A. No, I did not, although I hustled and parked cars of people who drove to the games. We parked the cars in our garage and parking lots in our area.

Q. In your driveway?

A. Anywhere we could. In June 1939, when I graduated from high school, I went over and worked for Bill Bishoff, who reported to Mr. Paul Elsmann, Director of its Service Department, who was a foreman in the Service Department for the summer. And I worked on campus cutting grass and helping other full time personnel with maintenance tasks or jobs.

Q. Maintenance?

A. Maintenance. Then I enrolled in September 1939 in Bliss College, a downtown business college, night school. So this extended my summer work into fall. Anyway, in 1940 I applied for a job at the Stores and Receiving Department. I sent in an application to Carl Steeb, who was the Business Manager of the University in those days. Anyway, I think he must have found out that Fred Jones had an opening over at the Stores and Receiving. So I got interviewed and I got a job with Fred Jones in 1940.

- Q. But you had been working in the maintenance area.
- A. Yes, on a part-time hourly basis.
- Q. I have a question about the kind of the feel of the place at that time. Would you have known Steeb, or would your dad have known him?
- A. Oh, my dad knew him.
- Q. So the community was much smaller then.
- A. My dad knew him. When I was in North High School, I didn't have to study too much or bring homework home. We had study periods. I had a good background in education at Holy Name and Indianola. So I was a pretty good student. I had to go to the hospital with an appendectomy, an emergency in 1938, May of 1938. I remember my family doctor, John Reeder, who was our family doctor down in Flytown. He had his office at Buttles and High. I had gone to a circus and ate five White Castle hamburgers that night coming home. I had a coupon. You get five hamburgers, White Castles, for a dime. And he told my dad, "That's the worst thing that boy could have done." So I ended up going to the hospital and I had peritonitis set in. Believe it or not, back then they would not admit me to the hospital unless my dad had \$60 to put down as a deposit.
- Q. Was this OSU Hospital?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Even though he worked at the University?
- A. He didn't have it. So he called Dr. John Reeder and the doctor instructed my dad, "Leave the boy in that wheelchair. Don't move him." So he evidently called Dr. Dodd, who was the Chief of Staff at University Hospital, and he got me admitted.



I had an appendectomy. I did have peritonitis. Back in those days they didn't have any Streptomycin or Penicillin. So they had to wait for it to drain. In fact, I still have the tube scar. But I made it. The University treated my dad well, I can tell you that, with the hospital bills and so on. They were kind and patient.

Q. There was no Blue Cross or anything like that for the employees in those days. That came after the War.

A. There was some insurance even before the War because when I started working at the Stores and Receiving my salary was \$70 a month. And I think we had one dollar deducted for insurance. And so there was some insurance coverage back in 1940. But my surgery occurred in 1938, so I do not remember what kind of insurance my dad had, if any at the time.

Q. Well I know the times were different. So you worked for Stores and Receiving Department. Who was your boss there?

A. Fred Jones was the head man, the director, but I had a couple of people supervising me. Charlie Pugh was a clerk there and he was my boss. Another guy, Harvey Saunders, was another supervisor. But we shipped and received and serviced the departments with materials and supplies.

Q. Where were you located physically?

A. Physically the Stores and Receiving department was located across the street from the northwest corner of the Administration Building, later the \_\_\_\_\_ became the Alumni House.

Q. Northwest corner of the Administration Building. Is that near Brown Hall?

A. Well, yes. Brown Hall was across the street. The Stores and Receiving was back in there at a dock. They had a dock back there and the Stores and Receiving later on became Alumni House.

Q. Kind of where the post office is now?

A. Well, the post office was just south of us. You know where the Bacteriology Building on Neil Avenue was?

Q. Yes.

A. Well, the Post Office was just a little bit south of there.

Q. I meant where it is now.

A. Oh yes.

Q. So this was just a short walk from home?

A. Oh yes.

Q. And you still lived at home?

A. I still lived at home at 278 West Woodruff Avenue. Later on, about 1941, we moved from West Woodruff to West Norwich Avenue (west of Neil Avenue) because we needed another bedroom. We had two boys and a girl and our sister was growing up.

Q. In 1941 you moved. Right around that time you got out of there, which is really very close to West Woodruff Avenue. What is it, about three streets north?

A. Well yes, Frambes, Lane, Norwich, Northwood. Still in the general area.

Q. You were right there.

A. Oh yes.

Q. What did you do? What were your duties?

A. I was a clerk. Clerking and giving out items that people came to receive. Had to write a requisition for it to get it out for the departments. I also learned how to make picture frames.

Q. Did you do this in the storage area or receiving, or did you do both?

A. Both. I did everything I was asked or taught to do. That's where I was when I went into the service on July 17, 1942. I got a formal leave of absence, a military leave of absence.

Q. Were you drafted?

A. Yes, I was drafted.

Q. What branch of the service?

A. Well, I started out in the Army, then ended up the U.S. Army Airforce. When I got out I was in the U.S. Army Airforce.

Q. Where were you?

A. Well, I went from here to Wyoming for my basic training. And I was only there for three months and they shipped me out to the Aleutian or Peninsula Islands, I was in the Aleutian Peninsula there. I was stationed at Coal Bay and Port Heiden, and then I was sent up to Anchorage, Alaska (Elmehdor Field). So I was up for fourteen months and then they sent us to California. I went through Seattle I think three different times shipping out to various Pacific locations. I returned from Alaska and went to Fresno, California, then down to Salton sea in California in the desert. And then went to San Antonio, Texas, and then to Wilmington, North Carolina. I was transferred to the U.S. Army Air Force when I was up in Alaska.

Later, in March 1945, we got shipped clear across the country over to Seattle to Okinawa, Japan.

Q. What year did you go to Okinawa?

A. 1945. They invaded Okinawa, I think, in April, and I got there a little bit after that.

Q. It was then a staging area, wasn't it, for bombing?

A. Okinawa was a battle.

Q. No, I mean once they got it.

A. Oh yes, once we got it. We were scheduled to go to Kyushu when the War ended.

When they dropped the bomb, I was with a service group that serviced the P47 fighters that accompanied the big bombers. So we were scheduled to go to Kyushu, Japan when the war ended. I was on the island where Ernie Pyle got killed. He came from Europe and went over there. Ironically the girl that I married, Audree, her uncle by marriage, who was from Iowa, was a cousin of Ernie Pyle.

Q. It's a small world.

A. Yes.

Q. So how long were you on Okinawa?

A. From early '45 to the end of the War and then we came back.

Q. Pretty quick you came back?

A. I came back in January of '46.

Q. You were discharged?

A. Yes, I was discharged at Camp Atterbury, Indiana.

- Q. Did you see combat at that time?
- A. Only from the air. Yes, we were under attack. The Japs made a last ditch attempt to re-capture the Shima-Okinawa areas.
- Q. They were shooting at you.
- A. Yes. A poor fellow, a guy from Marietta that I played ball with, we were playing ball when the Japs were still snipe hunting.
- Q. So there were some remnants of the Japanese Army still there?
- A. Oh yes. Even after the war, you're right. He got hurt playing ball and was in the hospital when they came over to try to take the island back. I felt so sorry because they were dropping bombs all over the area and the poor people in the hospital tents were helpless. But they made it.
- Q. So when you came back, there must have been millions literally of people coming back and being discharged.
- A. Oh yes.
- Q. Did you have a hard time getting back in the University?
- A. Well, no, as a matter of fact that's what I did. I went back to work since I had a formal military leave of absence.
- Q. It was just like that. They took you back?
- A. Oh yes. I only stayed until the spring quarter started because I decided to enroll in the College of Commerce at this University.
- Q. So this was spring of 1946?
- A. Yes 1946. I enrolled I think, the day before my 25<sup>th</sup> birthday. On my twenty-fifth birthday I enrolled in the OSU College of Commerce. I gave my resignation to

Fred Jones and he understood. "I decided, I wanted to go to college." I was riding the bus one day coming home from downtown and I saw a guy by the name of Robert Morris, who was my rival in Holy Name School. He was a smart kid. And here he was carrying books. And I said, "My gosh, if Bob Morris can do it, I can do it." So I decided to go to school.

Q. And then the GI Bill was undoubtedly very helpful?

A. Oh yes. That's what got me and other ex-GI's through, that's right. And so I went through fourteen straight quarters without a break because I wanted to get out right away. And at the same time, I worked four hours every day and on Saturday mornings in the Inventory Department at OSU which was located in the northwestern part of the Administration Building. I worked for Sam Price who was the director of the Inventory department. I'd get up at 1:30-2:00 in the morning each quarter to go to the College of Commerce to get in line so that I could get the course schedule that I wanted that would allow me to work afternoons and Saturday a.m.

Q. You needed to have the right schedule.

A. I needed all my classes in the morning, so I could work in the afternoon. And I was never first in line. I was third or fourth at best.

Q. But you got there soon enough to get what you wanted.

A. I did.

Q. So you worked actually then right through your college career?

A. I did. And that's what I got credit for.

Q. I was kidding you about the first credit.

- A. Well I did get that credit for the work I did in the Inventory department because I worked enough hours and made enough money to qualify for some of the years. So when I went to work for the Research Foundation, after I got out of school, I had about 10 ½ years of service credit including my work at the Stores and Receiving, my work as a student working part-time. I think I may have also been given a couple of years of credit for part time University Services over the years.
- Q. You probably got it because when I was 15 and 16, and that looks like those are the years you worked, a good Italian buddy of mine whose father got me a job working for the City of Cleveland for two summers, and I got credit for that.
- A. Well sure.
- Q. It's all to the good.
- A. Right.
- Q. So you worked in the Administration Building in inventory. Where was that in the Administration Building?
- A. On the first floor. The first floor in the northeast corner of the Administration Building. Now downstairs in the basement they had stored all the records of the Business Office and other offices records. At that time the Research Foundation's offices were located up on the third floor of the building. Before that time the Faculty Club was up on the third floor of the Administration Building.
- Q. But when you were working in the building it was the Research Foundation. Because by that time the Faculty Club would have been built.
- A. Oh yes. The Faculty Club was built in the 30's on the spot where they had the state health department building next to Mirror Lake.

Q. I understand, I don't know whether this is true or whether you know it, but the Faculty Club was the only building on campus built by the WPA.

A. That's right. Although I think the WPA did have something to do with the building of the golf course, when it was constructed. You're speaking of the golf course, I've always said that they talk about courage you know. What was the book that Kennedy wrote about profiles? How can you not say that L.W. St. John didn't have courage when, in the late 20's, he goes to the University and goes to the legislature to ask for money to buy land for what? A golf course.

Q. Well the late 20's were boom time.

A. Early on. At the time the golf course was being built.

Q. He probably got the money before that.

A. Yes. He got the authorization. But I thought he had courage.

Q. WPA put bread on our table.

A. Oh yes. Oh yes. That's right. This is what I talk about in education. My having an education just living down on west Woodruff Avenue, where my dad always had bread on the table. He had a steady job, worked for the University. And we were thankful. We used to grow our vegetables in our garden in our yard, i.e. tomatoes and such, and give them away because we had so much of it. My mother used to put away a nickel and/or dime and instead of having my brother and I put in the one or two tons of coal into our basement, (because people would come to our door, men with tears in their eyes, asking for work). She would have them do the job. She would pay them fifty cents a ton to put in the coal instead of having my brother and I do it.



- Q. Good for her. She was being charitable.
- A. That's right. She understood the situation. There were people living in homes in our neighborhood that rented rooms out to the students, many of whom were married students and had some children. They used to live in a one room place. He used to study. She may or may not have had a job. It was tough going for them.
- Q. Probably couldn't get a job.
- A. No, that's right. And they had a tough time. One of the guys that lived in Mrs. Taylor's home down the street between us and the Aquillas, was Joe Sabino. He ended up being President of the pharmaceutical association in Ohio. He went to school at OSU.
- Q. And rented a room down the street.
- A. Rented a room. That's where he got his education here at Ohio State, and he rented a room there I remember. And then he later on had a drug store at Patterson and High. And he later on became an active alumnus. Back then OSU had an enrollment here I think roughly around 13-14,000. In the summertime it was probably around 7,000
- Q. That was a fairly high proportion of the students.
- A. Yes.
- Q. Ray, let me ask you about the life on campus when you were growing up, about the relationship between the races. Did anything go on? I guess I remember hearing that blacks were not permitted to live a lot of places.

A. That's right. Ironically, when we moved away from Flytown, we were beginning to get some of the black people in there. In fact, when we moved from Flytown there was a family by the name of Brown that lived next door to us, and they had a boy named Paul Brown. I played with him next door. And I often said to my mother, "Mom, their house is much cleaner than some of the other houses of our friends." But we were getting the black element in there, not that they were bad, they were just starting to move in. And this Brown family was a wonderful family. We came up north to West Woodruff and here is Mr. Ford. We always called him Mr. Ford. Black man who was the mailman. He had two boys. One was Lightning they called him and the other was Snowball (nickname of course). There were colored people over on Frambes Avenue and Lane Avenue. And when Bill Bell used to come across ...

Q. Bill Bell was?

A. The football player from Ohio State that came across to go and eat because he couldn't eat at the training table back in those days. This was back like in 1930, '30, '31.

Q. I guess I was even unaware that they had an integrated football team then.

A. Well, this is something. When Ohio State played Navy at Annapolis, my understanding is that he couldn't play. Now when they came here to play of course, he could play since Navy would have been the visiting team.

Q. Well, Maryland is a southern state.

A. Well yes. And then speaking of that, even down at Flytown before we moved away, when I was around five or six years old, I seem to remember of people with

white hoods coming down on horseback around the river and scaring many of the people. The black people had a church on Collins and Pennsylvania Avenue that they attended to worship. I used to go in that church once in a while, particularly if it was hot outside. My mother always said, "Don't you do anything wrong in there. If you go in there you behave yourself." Not to make fun of them or anything. But I have reflections of the KKK coming around there.

Q. Those were different times.

A. Different times, yes.

Q. Let me ask you something as being an Italian American. Did you ever feel any, living near the University, any discrimination or anything like that?

A. No, the only thing that I felt even before I came up around the University ...

Q. I know you probably got it from the Irish kids.

A. Because I'd learned to talk Italian before I learned to talk English, obviously because I was born under Italian parenthood. But I felt I needed to try harder, to work harder, to study more when I was in grade school, to prove that I could meet the test. I wanted to succeed.

Q. You probably had Irish nuns teaching you.

A. Oh yes. Father Donnehey was our pastor. But anyway, when I came up north and I went to school, I didn't sense that much difference, although I still tried harder. Now I suppose, for some reason or other, my complexion wasn't as dark as other people's complexion who were Italian. That may have made a difference. A lot of people didn't think I was Italian. After I got my nose busted playing ball and so forth, a lot of people thought I was more Jewish than I was

- Italian. But no, I didn't sense that at all. We were around them. I know that some of the black people we were around may have resented. They had a little chip.
- Q. They damn well should have resented.
- A. Had a chip on their shoulder. But that was part of growing up.
- Q. I was just curious about that aspect and how you as a young kid coming up, how you saw that, that aspect of life. It's something that I guess you're born into your time.
- A. That's right. My mother and dad always tried to teach us tolerance. My mother was more religious I guess than my dad was. I guess that was always true of any Irish or Italian family, the mother was more so.
- Q. The mom carries the load on that.
- A. I remember one day she came home, it was on a Friday. She was so busy she had forgotten she had meat, instead of having something other than meat on Friday. So we became somewhat rowdy in our kidding her for her forgetfulness. She didn't like that too much. It was like an insult to her. She says, "Sometimes it's better to be more careful of what comes out of your mouth than what goes into your mouth."
- Q. That sounds like something that should be written down. Let me ask you, when you were in college, those were busy times for the University.
- A. Oh yes. From '46 to '49. As I said, I went through 14 straight quarters. I would never recommend that to anyone after my experiences; but I wanted to get through college as soon as possible.
- Q. Were your classes big?

A. Yes, yes. And the student population when I started school in '46 I think was around 25-26,000 people. And they had to make fast adjustments insofar as finding space for the students to study and to live. The Quonset huts were all over the campus for classes. You go to a lecture class in the College of Commerce back in those days and it was filled. It was a problem for President Bevis, particular Bevis, back in those days when he was President, and then later on Fawcett. But Bevis was the President back in those early post war years.

Q. When you were working in the Administration Building did you get to know Bevis?

A. No, I didn't get to know Bevis.

Q. Would you see him in the hall?

A. Oh yes, oh yes. We would speak, if you'd see Fawcett in the hallway, on the elevator later on working there. Rightmire was the first President I got a paycheck under but I didn't know him, because he was on his way out, retiring in 1937.

Q. What was your impression of Bevis to the extent that you know him? A cordial man? I have no personal knowledge.

A. I didn't see that much of him. He came, you know, from Cincinnati up here. He was an attorney, and then he went to Harvard, then he came here. So I really can't say. I didn't know him too well like I knew later Presidents, like Harold Enarson and Jennings and Fawcett. He wasn't what I read about Oxley Thompson and then Rightmire and then Bevis, Thompson was a scholar when

you compare him to the other two people, Rightmire and Bevis. I believe both Rightmire and Bevis had legal backgrounds.

Q. Okay, so we get to the point where you are graduating and that is what year?

A. September 2, 1949.

Q. September 2, 1949. And you then were looking for a job?

A. I looked for a job. It just so happened that at that particular time the job thing was on the way down.

Q. With all those people graduated.

A. That's right. The salaries weren't as good as it had been before. The best offer I had I think was from Pete Marwick and Mitchell, an accounting firm, to go to Texas. The offer I felt wasn't quite enough, and so I thought I'd stick it out. I kept working for the inventory department until Tom Davis, who was then Assistant Executive Director of the Foundation under Sam Owens, who was Executive Director and were upstairs in the Administration Building on the third floor, he had an opening and needed some help. They needed an inventory system which they didn't have to meet the governmental needs, since OSURF had government contracts as well as industrial contracts. And so he had heard about me and he called me. I guess I had approached him I think before I went to college, when I was working at the Stores and Receiving. And he recommended I go to college and get a degree, which I did and he remembered about that. And when he heard about me he called me up.

Q. You were working in the same building?

- A. But I didn't see too much of him then. So he asked me if I'd be interested in coming to work for him. He wanted me to set up an inventory system, so that they could meet the requirements of the government contracts and so forth.
- Q. So when was this, Ray?
- A. This was in November of 1949.
- Q. Okay, so pretty quickly you got a job.
- A. Yes, I got out in September and began working full at the Research Foundation on November 1, 1949.
- Q. Let me ask something before we get into the Research Foundation. When did you get married? Were you married by this time?
- A. No, no. I wasn't married, I was a slow guy.
- Q. Why don't we talk about that, just for a couple of minutes. Let's talk about the love of your life.
- A. Okay. I'm smiling because every time I mention this Audree gets mad at me. She says, "That's not true."
- Q. She won't hear this.
- A. Well, she knows about what I'm going to tell you, cause I told her that, when I was going through Minnesota on the troop train, and we went through Mitchell, South Dakota.
- Q. I know it because of the Corn Palace there.
- A. That's right. She was actually born in Minnesota, in Worthington, Minnesota. And then they moved to South Dakota. Then they moved back to Worthington, Minnesota. But I said to her, when we stopped at Mitchell, South Dakota on the

troop train to Seattle, the people were giving us sandwiches, pheasant sandwiches, which they did. I saw that little girl down there and I said to myself, "I'm going to marry her." She said, "My mother wouldn't even let me get down there on at the station. You didn't see me." So I'm just pulling Audree's leg. But that's where she came from. She came from Worthington, Minnesota and Mitchell, South Dakota. She came up here to work for Louie Stevens and Bob Ringer in the payroll department in October of 1952.

Q. She didn't move here for that purpose?

A. No. She moved here because her uncle, her mother's brother, lived out here on Rte 33 and Henderson Road. He had that property on the corner.

Q. The big one, the one DeSantis bought.

A. DeSantis bought it from him I guess before he died. I guess he had told them, "Come on out." They didn't have any children, her uncle and wife. His wife was Catholic. I think he turned Catholic, but they didn't have any children. He told his sister, Audree's mother, "Come on out. You and Jerry (that's her brother). We have nobody here. It will be your property someday." Well, that didn't turn out that way. His first wife died, then he remarried and he ended up selling it. They didn't get anything from that. But that's the way things happen. But that's when they came out here.

Q. What year would that have been?

A. October, 1952.

Q. 1952, when she came out just out of high school?



A. Yes, just out of high school. She is nine years younger than I am. She went to work for an insurance company. Her uncle got her a job, I think it was with Fred Jones' insurance company. And then later on she had a chance to come over to the University and that's when she came. And so she worked for Bob Ringer and Louie Stevens. And that's how I met her, through my work with the Foundation and working with the business office. We got married on August 1, 1959.

Q. How long did you court her?

A. From probably December or January, six, seven, eight months.

Q. So actually it was pretty quick. You didn't meet her right away.

A. I didn't meet her, no. I knew who she was or I talked to her on the phone and used to see her when I went over to the Administration Building and see Ringer and Stevens on business.

Q. You were a fairly young guy.

A. Well, I was 38 when we married.

Q. That's still young.

A. I was 38 years old. She was 29.

Q. And just to kind of finish off that little part of things, how many children do you have?

A. Three.

Q. And I know Tom.

A. We have Tom and we have Steve, who is 18 months younger, and we have the "caboose" Susan. She was just 35 on April 7, 2005. She's out in Colorado and is a registered nurse. She went to school here at OSU in the College of Nursing.

Tom graduated from here, from Ohio State. Off and on, it took him about eight years. He'd quit working and go back and forth, but he finally did it.

Q. Tom doesn't work for the Research Foundation anymore, does he?

A. Not anymore. He used to work for the Foundation, then he left and went out to Colorado State for a year. Then he came back and he ended up working for the Cancer Center. And then about a year and a half or two ago, he had an opportunity to go work for the Athletic Department in the business office of that department. And that's where he is now.

Q. I did not know that.

A. Steve is out at the golf course in maintenance.

Q. So he works for the University.

A. In maintenance. They're just trying to sell their home. Now they have two children. We have two grandchildren.

Q. Just Tom?

A. No, Steve. Tom is not married yet.

Q. I didn't think he was married.

A. Susan is married. She and her husband have no children. She has a health problem kidney wise that she found out about five years ago.

Q. But you have two grandchildren and they're in town?

A. Right.

Q. Well that's good for you.

A. And Susan is out in Colorado and doing very well, as a registered nurse. She was working for St. Anthony's Hospital out there, but now she is working for an outpatient surgical hospital.

Q. Give Tom my regards when you see him. I haven't seen him for a long time. But back to the Research Foundation. This is kind of the beginning of an era. You worked for the Research Foundation from November 1949 until when?

A. July of 1987.

Q. July of 1987. Okay, so that's almost 40 years.

A. I retired in July of 1987, July 1st.

Q. So that's 38 years that you worked for the Foundation.

A. When I went to work for the Foundation with my retirement, the University doesn't recognize the years that you don't get a paycheck, as far as longevity.

Q. But you had the military.

A. I had 3 ½ years of military which the Retirement Board recognizes. That's where I get 48 years.

Q. So you really, in a way, you must be one of the record holders.

A. Well, there are other people who have been here longer, I'm sure.

Q. Sure.

A. I could have gone until 70 years of age and got in maybe close to 50 or over 50, but my brother, who was 2 ½ years younger than I was, and was in the oil business in California and in Texas, and who ended up dying when he was 63 years old from cancer.

Q. So you thought you'd get some retirement in.

- A. I hastened my retirement because he told me, “Ray, if you can do it, retire and enjoy it. It’s hard to enjoy.”
- Q. What is that, almost 18 years. So you got a few years in. Let’s talk about the Foundation a little bit. You went there as an inventory person, set up an inventory system.
- A. I set up an inventory department. For the first year or year and a half I set up an inventory department. And I patterned it after a combination of our OSU inventory and other things, to meet the needs of government, because we had property. Those two parabolic mirrors out there on Kinnear Road, we got those from the Comair Development Center years and years ago.
- Q. They still look good out there. I don’t know if they’re still used.
- A. They were using them about ten years ago, at least I heard that anyway.
- Q. OSUR office was on the third floor of the Administration Building?
- A. Yes. Later on we moved over to the Communications Lab which is around the Mechanical Engineering Department over there. We had to split up because our office staff was increasing in numbers.
- Q. Let’s just talk about locations of the Foundation.
- A. Okay.
- Q. Where did it start, do you know? Was it always in the Administration Building up until you joined it?
- A. No. I think it first started over, I think, over in the Chemistry Building someplace and in the Engineering Experiment Station. Let’s see.

- Q. You didn't have a whole heck of a lot of space over there. So it must have been a small operation.
- A. And then, I'm trying to think, they did occupy some space over in the Communications Building before they went to the Administration Building.
- Q. But when you joined them they were pretty much all on the third floor?
- A. On the third floor of the Administration Building. Sam Owens was the Director.
- Q. Let me just talk about location for a while. The Communications Building, is that the one that used to be the airplane hangar?
- A. Yes, that's right.
- Q. That's gone now. It was on 19<sup>th</sup> Avenue.
- A. That's right.
- Q. Okay. So from the main building it started with a little space in Communications, then it all went over there, is that it?
- A. Yes. And then some of us came back to Communications later on.
- Q. Okay. But they moved out of the main building, is that right?
- A. No, not entirely. The only time we moved out of the main building, of the Administration Building, is after they built that building on 19<sup>th</sup> Avenue.
- Q. Which I think of as the old Graduate School but now it's Aviation.
- A. That's right. The old Graduate School. But we occupied that building for a couple of years only. But they build that building for us.
- Q. Do you remember what year that was roughly?

A. Yes, we went over there probably in '53, from the Administration Building. They grouped the people from Communications Building and Administration Building and took us over to 19<sup>th</sup> Avenue in 1953.

Q. And the people lusted for that space I imagine immediately.

A. What space?

Q. The new building.

A. Well yes.

Q. Somebody else wanted it I mean.

A. Yes. Of course. But then this property on Kinnear Road became available, Rockwell Manufacturing occupied the Kinnear Road property. They had a small tools division.

Q. The old saw company.

A. Yes.

Q. I thought you were going to tie this together.

A. When I started telling about my dad, the old saw company came over and became the Rockwell. And here I am over there working where my dad started years ago.

Q. Physically he wasn't in that building.

A. No, oh no. This was before he went to University, back in 1926.

Q. It was a different building.

A. Oh yes.

Q. So that was 1314 Kinnear Rd., do I have it right?

A. 1314 Kinnear Road. But what happened is, Rockwell moved their operations. They had some labor problems as you may recall. And they moved their

operations down into Kentucky I believe. So that property and 14 acres, whatever it is over there, became available. And they offered it to the University. If you buy the building we'll donate the land to you. So the University acquired it. And now what to do with it? So this was 1955 when we moved over there because the President strongly suggested that it would be a nice place for the Research Foundation. One thing, we didn't have is any parking problems.

Q. And let's see. That wasn't in the city at that time, was it?

A. No. This was May of 1955 we moved over there.

Q. Okay. So actually you retired from that building, didn't you?

A. Yes. Because after I retired they moved over on Kenny Road.

Q. 1960 Kenny Road.

A. Now when we were there at the Kinnear Road place, we ended up buying the Bituminous Coal Research building there on the corner for the University with the direct cost funds we recovered for the University.

Q. This was the 1900 building?

A. Yes.

Q. 1900 Kenny Road, next to the current research building.

A. That's right. We paid, I think, \$176,000 or something like that and bought it for the University. We could do this you know. We had it in our reserves.

Q. I became intimately familiar with that later on in my life. Okay, let's go back. So there were different locations. Let me ask you another general question about the people who were the leaders of the Foundation, Executive Directors and so on.

When you got there it was who as the Executive Director?

- A. Sam Owens.
- Q. Sam Owens. Now he was not the first one, was he?
- A. No. I was trying to think.
- Q. I know this is all in the Archives.
- A. The first Executive Director of the Research Foundation was Hurlbert S. Jacoby, Engineering Experiment Station. Dr. A.R. Olpin succeeded Dr. Jacoby in February, 1939. Dr. James S. Owens succeeded Dr. Olpin on February 15, 1946
- Q. You're doing quite well.
- A. Sam Owens succeeded Dr. Olpin as the third Executive Director.
- Q. They were powerhouse guys, weren't they?
- A. They were powerhouse guys. We had Jim Lincoln from Cleveland on the Board that helped establish the Foundation. We had Kettering believe it or not on the Board. Now I didn't know him because this was before my time. But he was a member of the Board, although I heard him speak. I used to go to Farmers Week. Could you imagine me going to the Farmers Week and listening to Kettering? Well, I did. He was right close by. And we had the Ag Engineering building right across the street from where I lived, Ives Hall.
- Q. The startling thing is that Kettering spoke at Farmers Week.
- A. That's right. Well he did. He spoke at U Hall.
- Q. Did he have an agricultural background or avocation or interest?
- A. Well, he came from a farm you know.
- Q. I thought he was a graduate.
- A. Well, he finally graduated.



- Q. Many of our finest graduates were kicked out and came back.
- A. Oh yes. You know what he says, failure makes you good. And he did alright. He was quite a guy.
- Q. Indeed.
- A. But we had a lot of people from the scientific area, engineering area, well known.
- Q. I guess I should mention about Lincoln that he was a tremendous industrialist from Cleveland, and I think the Lincoln Leveque Tower, that's his name.
- A. That's right. Who was the guy from Chemistry that helped invent nylon? He was on our Board.
- Q. Well, there was a man from Chemistry who, a graduate, who had something to do with the \_\_\_\_\_ lead, the anti-knock. I'll be darned if I can remember his name. But he was a close associate of Kettering's.
- A. But they had quite a group of people. You're rubbing elbows with these guys just to be near them you know. When they broke up, that group, in '53 I thought it was sad; some of those guys were crying because they couldn't serve the University anymore in the same capacity.
- Q. Probably a mistake but times change.
- A. The powers that be, they thought it was best.
- Q. And Tom Davis was a power in the Foundation for a long time, wasn't he?
- A. Yes. He was a go-getter. He worked under Sam and he took care of the business end of it, most of it.
- Q. What was his background?

A. He was business. He grew up, I think he was from around the coal mining country of Jackson, Ohio. He worked hard. He hurt his back. He worked for Ford Motor Co. for a long time. I forget exactly the details of it, but he ended up going to college at an advanced age and being a self-made man so to speak.

Q. Did he work for the Foundation until his retirement? He didn't work for any other part of the University, did he?

A. No. I don't know if he worked for student auditing before he went to the Foundation. I don't know about that for sure.

Q. Do you know when he left roughly?

A. Oh yes, he left, let's see, he lost his wife, his first wife, and then he remarried. A woman that she and his wife used to baby-sit their children. She's still living by the way. She is 90 some years old. Davis is her name. But she was the wife of a student auditor here at Ohio State, Bill Kinzel, who later on went to Wright Field and worked over there where Mary Beth and he had two children. Her son died. She had a boy and a girl but her son died. But she's still living, Tom Davis' wife. And he left the Foundation when he retired which was ... let's see, I retired in '87. He died in '81. So he must have retired around '76, '77, '78, something like that.

Q. Yes. I have no personal recollection of him. But I'm thinking that he was the guy that did a lot of the running of the place.

A. He did. He ran the place.

Q. And eventually you took his job.

- A. Yes, eventually, that's right. Sam Owens got an offer from Champion Spark Plug Company, the guy that ran the place up in Toledo, wanted him to come up and work in the Ceramic Division. Sam was a physicist. He went to the University and said, "I'd like to stay and what can you do for me?" Of course, the salary he was offered up there, he didn't expect for the University to meet it. But I remember them saying, as I understand, as, "Oh my, you can't do that. That would be paying you more than the Dean of the College of Medicine."
- Q. They offered him a handshake and a good-bye.
- A. So he went.
- Q. When was this, Ray, roughly? Dr. Owens resigned at the close of 1951. Was this while you were still in the main building?
- A. Oh yes. They hired Oram C. Wolpert effective February 1, 1952.
- Q. That's the first one those name I really remember.
- A. They hired him from Camp Detrich, Maryland.
- Q. I guess you'd call it biological weapons, defense side.
- A. That's right.
- Q. He worked on the defense side.
- A. And they hired him from there.
- Q. What was his name?
- A. Oram C. Wolpert.
- Q. The interesting part about him I guess is that I can recall, and you have to fill me in with the real facts, when he retired he was given an annuity that the Foundation paid. And I remember we paid that for a long, long, long time.

A. He lived to be a ripe old age.

Q. Over 100 I imagine.

A. I don't know if it was over 100 but it was close to 100. But that's right. And he married a woman, Betty, I think she's still living. She's in a retirement home. She was a little younger than he was. That was his second wife. I remember Jack Spires, when he was our Accounting Director, they used to write that and it was written until he died.

Q. Is this guy still living?

A. They do check up on you because I remember my mother, when she was getting a survivor's benefit from my dad, I think it was something like \$52 or something. She kept on living and living and living. They came around physically to check on her. The PERS. Well that's alright. They should. Those stories you hear about Social Security.

Q. So Wolpert came in then in?

A. In '52, something like that. I guess he and Alpheus Smith, Alpheus Smith was the President of the Foundation. He used to be Dean of the Graduate School.

Q. A physicist.

A. Yes. Alpheus A. Smith I think, wasn't it?

Q. But Wolpert was the Director until Stevenson? Was there somebody else in there?

A. Until Stevenson.

Q. And he came early 60's maybe?

A. Yes, '62, '63, something like that. It was under Wolpert that they had this change of the composition of the Board. I think he and Alpheus felt, I don't know whether it was he and Alpheus or Alpheus and he, to bring it in closer to the bosom of the University. As you know, like any organization, when it was first organized back in 1936, November 2, 1936, they had been talking about this for a long time. Your friend, Jim Lincoln, he was one of the early ...

Q. He wasn't my friend.

A. Well anyway.

Q. I knew people who worked for him up in Cleveland as a matter of fact.

A. I think Oram always felt, at least I felt that he felt, that he wanted to bring them closer to the bosom of the University. As any organization when it first starts out as a fledgling thing, let the bird fly you know and go different directions and so forth. Many people felt that they wanted to bring it closer to the bosom of the University, and that's when they decided to change the composition of the Board.

Q. And they put more University people in positions where they were controlled.

A. Yes. I think maybe I felt at that time, you hate to lose all that talent you know that you have available to you. Whether you use it or not, it's available to you. But I guess they replaced part of it at least with other people in due time. But they did bring the organization closer to the University.

Q. Were you involved in that way in any way?

A. No, I wasn't.

Q. What is your recollection of how that happened and the fall-out from it, if there was any?

A. I think it was a combination of things. I think that maybe Oram felt after being here for a while and maybe talking with the faculty, and the faculty complaining/questioning somewhat about maybe the independency of the Foundation more than maybe they felt it should be, he listened to them and was convinced that times had changed; it's time to bring the Foundation closer to the University and have the University help manage it more closely. I never felt that the powers that be at the University, if they understood the Foundation, would ever want to let go of it.

Q. Amen.

A. Because I think it's to their advantage, at least if I was in that seat I would want to protect it, because it gives you flexibility.

Q. There's some people I dealt with that didn't understand that.

A. As I said, if you understood it, I think you could do so much with it. I always think of the story.

Q. You gave an example. You bought the building, you bought 1900 Kenny Road for them, just like that. That would have taken ten years for the University to do it.

A. I remember when Bricker, John Bricker, was in the Senate, our former Governor. All of a sudden Tom Davis said, "What in the hell is happening here? We've stopped getting checks from the government. We're going to have to go out and borrow money to operate." Well, somehow or other they felt that certain federal funds that were supposed to be used for indigent purposes, people, weren't getting there in the right way. So here they look and see, where in the hell can we get

- some of this money back? And they look at The Ohio State University Research Foundation. They're the highest paid, let's get it from them.
- Q. So they were trying to get state money back?
- A. They were trying to get federal money back from the State of Ohio and were tapping the Research Foundation. So Tom and Wolpert went to Administration and they got hold of John Bricker, and John Bricker made the case. "You can't do that. They're an independent organization."
- Q. Separate corporation.
- A. Now if it was the other way around, they're part of it.
- Q. Just as an aside, now your paychecks, at least for almost the whole thing, were from the Foundation.
- A. Up until 1986. And when Reagan was President they changed the Social Security and looked at that and said to Stevenson or whoever it was, Ken came in after Stevenson left, "We've got to do something about this." And so that's when we got hold of Madison Scott and they just put us on University payroll and "We will reimburse you for it," and so forth. And so up until that time.
- Q. That's the way that decision went. And I was involved in it a little bit. I will tell you that one other organization on campus that was somewhat similar was the Alumni Foundation. They went the other way.
- A. Alumni Association.
- Q. Because they wanted to be, they wanted to make sure they were completely independent.
- A. Yes.

- Q. They took a step backward, whereas the Research Foundation at that point became even closer to the University.
- A. Yes. But there was a slight difference between the Alumni Association and the Foundation. The Foundation worked with contracts and grants utilized by the faculty, in the faculty departmental facility and college facility. And using the equipment and so forth on that was a little different.
- Q. Well the driving force was the money though, because the employees of the Foundation would have had to start paying Social Security and PERS.
- A. That's right.
- Q. So that would have been a killer.
- A. That's right. And as a matter of fact, I attended a meeting here of the Public Employees Retirement, Inc. I went to the meeting and joined the Chapter. But they're concerned about it. They've been fighting this Social Security thing a long, long time.
- Q. They're concerned about it happening.
- A. The federal government taking in these state pension because the federal government wants the billions of dollars, the Public Employees Retirement and the State Teachers Retirement Systems have throughout the country.
- Q. They want to do now what they did back in the 80's for the non-profit corporations. They want to now do it to non-Social Security state systems like California and Ohio. There are a few others.
- A. Yes. And they told us then, the guy that spoke there that day, "So far we've been able to stall this, but I don't know what can happen in another 20 years."



- Q. We won't have to worry about it. Under Wolpert it got closer to the University.
- A. Right.
- Q. Of course he then left in roughly '62? '61-'62?
- A. Yes. '62-'63.
- Q. It was, I know there's a Bob and a Robert somewhere. That wasn't his first name.
- A. Robert C. Stephenson.
- Q. Was it Bob? He's the first one I really remember.
- A. Yes. I never called him Bob. Everybody called him Steve.
- Q. Steve, that was it. I knew he had a nickname but I couldn't come up with it.
- A. His wife is still living. We hear from her at Christmas time. Her writing is not too good anymore but she's in a retirement home. He's dead. He died a number of years ago.
- Q. Now where did he go from Ohio State? Where did he go to?
- A. Let me see. I think he went to Texas A&M, I think, for about five years.
- Q. And roughly what year would he have left? How long did he last here? It wasn't that long, was it. Ten years at the most.
- A. Let's see, when did Ken Sloan come here? '75, somewhere like that.
- Q. Mid-70's then.
- A. Mid-70's, yes. I remember after Ken arrived as the new Executive Director, he soon had to go to the Cleveland Clinic and have a bypass. He said he talked to the doctors and said they more or less assured him five years and he said that would be good enough for him.
- Q. This was Ken?

- A. Yes. So he's done pretty well.
- Q. He's still alive?
- A. Yes. He takes good care of himself.
- Q. Okay Ray, I was asking you where Robert Stephenson had come from.
- A. He was with the Geological Survey in Washington, D.C. as I recall before coming to OSU.
- Q. Now I haven't asked you about Oram Wolpert's personality, or even Sam Owens. Did you get to know Sam well enough to tell me what kind of a guy he was?
- A. He was a very active fellow. He never walked up the steps. He ran. He was always like a fellow on the go all the time. And he would talk like that, jerks and so forth. He died in Florida when he was about 95-96 years old.
- Q. That's a good place to work, that Foundation. Everybody lives a long time.
- A. Well, we hope so. We hope everybody does. But he was a congenial fellow.
- Q. I was just looking at the calendar to see when they are going to kick us out of there. I don't know when they're actually going to kick us out.
- A. As I say, he was aggressive. He wanted to be aggressive. I liked him. Wolpert was just a little bit different. He was just almost the opposite. He was easier going. Of course Wolpert was a medical man. I don't know if you knew this or not.
- Q. He was a physician?
- A. He was a physician. Very good sympathizer with you. And he acted like a doctor.
- Q. Like a doctor should.

- A. Like a doctor should. That's right. Now, he probably didn't move fast enough for Tom Davis. Tom worked with him for a long time. He just couldn't move fast enough for Tom on some of the things that Tom felt should have been done.
- Q. How about Stevenson? How would you characterize him as a leader and as a person?
- A. Well, he had good ideas. Steve had good ideas, except that there are times when you should express your ideas and there are times when you shouldn't express your ideas. It's good to speak your mind, but you have to make certain that when you speak your mind to the people that you're dealing with, and particularly your superiors, that you have some semblance of understanding their end of it and they too would like to have courteous people talk to them you see.
- Q. Was he kind of an abrupt guy?
- A. Abrupt guy. And he jumped to conclusions sometimes too soon, without thinking. He meant well. Don't misunderstand me. He meant well for the University and above all, believe it or not, for the faculty. This is what hurt him most. He meant to be good to the faculty but he did come across with them.
- Q. Well the Foundation has always been the bearer of bad news in a sense because they have to enforce the regulations.
- A. That's true.
- Q. They have to tell you what the rules are.
- A. And that angers some people. I know that and maybe because I know what my limitations are. I can't expect to be on the same level with some of the faculty that I'm dealing with. So I have to listen to them too. And I can understand their

end of it, why they don't like to have us enforce the rules and regulations that we're required to meet. So I don't mind that. I like to take time to explain it to them and hope that they understand it.

Q. That's just the way it is.

A. The way it is. Let's try this other way.

Q. And then we come to a guy I know pretty well. What did you think of Ken and his leadership?

A. It's good. He came to us from Baltimore, Maryland, I don't think Ken ever practiced veterinary medicine. He specialized in Veterinary Radiology, I believe. He came here as a program person and then left and went to the University of Illinois as Associate Dean of the College of Veterinary Medicine. He has an understanding of both sides, of the business end of the business and the faculty end of the business. So I think he had an advantage that I think that Steve didn't have really, or if he did have it, he didn't practice it. This is what hurt Steve. It's ironic that the most people he wanted to help were the people that he hurt, and the people that complained about him. It's too bad. Now Ken, I think he knew how to balance that.

Q. I had the feeling that maybe by the time Ken was into it a few years that the Foundation had been beaten down a lot, and that it started to maybe see itself as keeping its head down. Did that start under Steve, do you think?

A. I think it probably started towards the end of Steve, that's right. Because they could see the wind blowing in the direction it finally came. And of course one of

- the Vice Presidents there in the administration, and he didn't get along too well you know.
- Q. Was this Vice President for Research?
- A. Yes. Bob Smith.
- Q. Oh, Bob Smith, okay. I guess what we should do is talk about to whom the Foundation reported over the years. Because Bob Smith would have been an unusual choice, I would guess. Because he was more of a development/fund raiser, wasn't he?
- A. Yes, but when Fawcett hired him, I think it was Fawcett who hired him I believe, wasn't it? Yes.
- Q. Well, let's go back to Sam. How did he plug into the University? Who did he report to so to speak, if he reported to anybody? I know they were very independent in those days, but was it the President do you think?
- A. Well, back in those days I think we had a Vice President for Instruction and Research. Like Fred Heimberger, who was the Chief Academic Officer. And later John Corbally.
- Q. Heimberger didn't have the title Provost. But they were equivalent of the Provost.
- A. That's right. That's correct.
- Q. If we had a Provost it would have been them.
- A. That's right. I think the first Provost we had might have been Jack Corbally.
- Q. So they dealt with the Provost or whoever would have that functional title?
- A. I remember Albert Garrett.

Q. I was going to ask you about Al Garrett.

A. Al Garrett was the first Vice President for Research at this University. That position was established under President Novice Fawcett's tenure. I remember at one of the Board meetings this guy from Cleveland, short guy, self-made engineer, he was on our Board. I'm trying to think of his name (G.E. Tenney). Fawcett was there that day as a member of the Board. Also Gordon Carson was there. But he said, "We should have a Vice President for Research." They were discussing the various aspects of the operation of the organization, faculty. And he says, "We should have a Vice President for Research." I think we ought to have one. Novice speaks up and says, "I think as President of this institution I should have some say about that, whether we should have a Vice President for Research or not." He says, "Mr. President, we would keep you informed."

Q. But we ended up with Al Garrett.

A. That's right. Al Garrett became our first Vice President for Research.

Q. How did he interact with the Foundation?

A. Pretty good.

Q. Was it a reporting relationship?

A. Oh yes, yes. We would report right through him. And of course ever since then we reported to a Vice President for Research or a top administrator/academic officer.

Q. No, no, no, no, no, no, because there was a big hiatus there. After Al left. That was a fairly short time. I was going to ask you how long that lasted.

A. No, we reported to Al Kuhn, the Provost.

- Q. Back to the Provost then.
- A. Back to the Provost.
- Q. But how long did that Office of Research last? Was it two or three years?
- A. Let's see. We had a couple of Vice Presidents for Research. Al Garrett and who was the other guy that left?
- Q. Back in '82 they started it up again. There was one after Al Garrett?
- A. There was the Provost, Jack Corbally, then what's his name, Jim?
- Q. Jim Garland.
- A. No, that was later on. Before Jim Garland, the political science guy – Jim Robinson.
- Q. Yes, okay. But he was a Provost. He was not a VP for Research.
- A. No, he was a Provost.
- Q. But then after the office of Research ...
- A. I see what you mean. From Garrett. Vice President, we went to the Provost.
- Q. Was that a two or three year period that Al was in that position?
- A. Yes, it wasn't long as I recall. It wasn't five years but it was a little bit less than five.
- Q. A very nice man.
- A. Oh yes.
- Q. That's my take on him. As a younger, not a colleague, but he was in the Chemistry department. What did you guys think of Al Garrett? Did he treat you right?

A. He treated us right. He was very nice. The only thing is, sometimes he would not back you up like he said he would back you up.

Q. That's fatal.

A. Tom Davis got so damn mad at him. Excuse my language. I remember Harold Schechter, he's still living. I see Harold now and then. Harold was a pretty independent guy and still is I guess. But he was good with graduate students. He and Mel Newman had the greatest number, I think, of graduate students in chemistry.

Q. I believe it.

A. And they were good. Mel Newman could write a proposal in three or four paragraphs and get the dog-gone award.

Q. Well, he had a history of performance. He was a good chemist.

A. That's right. But Schechter was sometimes a little slow in getting his reports to the sponsor. Tom went to Al Garrett and said, "The sponsor's going to cut us off. We've got to do something." And so Al says, "I guess I'll do it," but then he didn't do it. Schechter heard about it and went right up to the top and talked to Al, and Al had to back down. Al Garrett was alright. I knew Al when he was in chemistry and had the battery programs and so on. We got along well.

Q. Did he get into the Foundation minutia very much?

A. Not too much. He depended on us.

Q. Okay. Let's see, by the time Al Garrett was the VP, what had your job trajectory been in the Foundation, and what other jobs had you done up to that point?

A. With Tom, then I became Tom's assistant.



- Q. This is after you did the inventory job?
- A. Yes, after the inventory job Tom brought me into his office and I began handling the affairs of the Administration. Then when Steve came in we sort of reorganized and made the split between the business side, administration, and the proposal people. The program people. That's where we made the split more formal you might say. And so I had the function of the services departments, contract administration, purchasing, travel, accounting, and publication of editorial printing and so forth.
- Q. Well you had a big share of the Foundation then?
- A. Yes. It crossed over like to the patents and so forth. Les Stout handled the patents and he was in the business end of it and it also touched on the program part of it. Do we still have that income?
- Q. The feline vaccine. That's gone. But I'm not plugged in anywhere.
- A. Well you're away from it.
- Q. So by the time Al Garrett was the VP, you were dealing probably with him a lot.
- A. Oh yes. I dealt with him and then later on, with the other people.
- Q. Let me ask you about that next period of time, because there would have been a guy named Bob Nerem. You remember Bob of course.
- A. He was an Associate there.
- Q. He was the Associate Dean for Research?
- A. He was Associate Dean of the Graduate School.

- Q. I think he was the person who was given the research responsibilities. I'm probably missing a big period of time because I'm thinking that must have been ...
- A. Are you thinking of Jules Lupidas?
- Q. Jules was probably an Associate Dean at that point.
- A. I understand he's back in town.
- Q. He is back in town?
- A. I haven't seen him.
- Q. I saw him a couple of times, just kind of bumping into him. But I know one of the titles Jules had was Vice Provost for Research. But I'm thinking there must have been a period of time between when Al Garrett left. There were some other Deans of the graduate school in there. I don't know whether the Foundation reported through that.
- A. After Jules left.
- Q. No, I mean before.
- Q. Oh before.
- A. Before Jules even came on the scene.
- Q. There was Dick Armitage. Then there was a guy that went to Tennessee. A big, tall guy named Arliss Roaden from the College of Education.
- A. Oh yes, from education. Now we reported to him. Gosh, you bring back a test of my memory now. He was in education.
- Q. And he was involved with the Foundation.
- A. Yes.

- Q. And how did that period of time go would you say?
- A. Okay, nothing spectacular. Things just kept going level. Then of course Jules came on eventually.
- Q. Did Jules take a hand in it personally?
- A. Yes.
- Q. He was probably the Associate Dean in charge of research.
- A. Right.
- Q. Okay.
- A. After Jules left there was another guy that had a funny name. It started with a "K." It's hard to pronounce. Was it Roy something?
- Q. Koenigsknecht. But before that, actually Koenigsknecht, but before that it was Bob Nerem.
- A. Yes, Bob went down to Texas.
- Q. He did. But during his time as the Associate Dean in charge of research, how were the relationships with the University? How did that period work out for you?
- A. I don't recall anything spectacular one way or the other, Tom. But we dealt with Bob Nerem a lot.
- Q. Bob would have been a point man I would think. If you got the word it would have come through Bob.
- A. Yes.
- Q. And then I don't know if Tim Donahue was next.
- A. Did he die?

- Q. Tim died about six months ago.
- A. I thought I heard that.
- Q. Tim was a good friend of mine. A great guy. But Tim, up until probably the late 70's, the early 80's, how were things with him?
- A. I don't remember anything spectacular. He was, as I recall, a fine gentleman and an understanding person.
- Q. I remember being in Tim's office once and seeing, before I got involved at that whole business, seeing big boxes of proposals that he always wanted to read, but he never did. And I quickly got to understand why.
- A. Oh yes.
- Q. Impossible. So things were kind of working out alright then. Then we come to when the Office of Research and Graduate Studies was formed and we had Jim Garland in there for a year. He was in there for one year. What are your impressions?
- A. In the one year I had a lot of contact with Jim Garland. He was in physics and I didn't expect him to know or be familiar with the business part of the operation. He had to depend on my suggestions or recommendations as far as any business aspect of it. So most of my dealings were his wanting to be guided and informed on the business end of it.
- Q. I remember, and I hate to interject my own situation, but our lives started to intersect at that point. I remember a very tense meeting in his office. I don't know if you remember that or not. That's the only time I ever heard anything, any non-polite word come out of Ken's mouth. Do you remember that meeting?

- A. I can understand. He's doing alright now, isn't he?
- Q. Sure. President of Miami University.
- A. But I think we all learned a little bit from that. I think he learned a little bit.
- Q. The gist of it was that the Foundation was taking a lot of heat. It wasn't said this way but I think it came out as, "You better be on our side and support us or ..."
- This wasn't a threat or anything; it was just a prediction, that this stuff is going to start to hit you too. This stuff was something that normally hits the fan.
- A. I think it was under his regime that we should think about being more like Lazarus. Was that Jim?
- Q. I don't remember that. But it could well have come out of Jim's mouth.
- A. But there's danger in that too you know because I think, with all due respect damn it, we have to work with the faculty.
- Q. Absolutely.
- A. Because they're the ones that are doing the work. They're the ones that are bringing in the money. They're the ones that are given the good or bad name of the University. So we have to think about them. Sometimes when you be more like Lazarus, you're not always doing the faculty a favor.
- Q. My guess is that those were tough times.
- A. It was. I guess with Jim Garland, I'd sometimes get exasperated, but I tried to understand this. Here's a guy in physics. He's put in this position. This is new to him. And he's new to us and we're new to him of course. I think for the most part, I think I'd have to say I stay on the plus side of him.
- Q. You stay on the plus side of everybody.

- A. I try to I guess, maybe. I don't always agree with him.
- Q. I guess my little take on it, and it's probably not too relevant, but Jim was kind of running for office. I mean, he wanted the job and didn't get it. Probably the best thing that ever happened in terms of long term career. But in order to get the job I suspect he felt he had to push things that some faculty members say. The Foundation, it's easy to throw brick \_\_\_\_\_ at it because of the function it serves in the University. And if you listen to the faculty who yell the loudest, then you end up maybe doing some things that you wouldn't do ordinarily. Now Jim, just for the record here, I think Jim's one of the good guys in life. But I think he was under almost an impossible situation. He was starting an office, hiring staff, thinking about this is a job I would like permanently, and there's just an awful lot of things going on. It turns out though that Jim did not get he job.
- A. And maybe it was better for him.
- Q. It is, I'm convinced personally that his career path really took on a momentum. He became Chair, then Dean, then President. We've got Jack Hollander in there. A sweet guy, at least to me. But what did the people at the Foundation think?
- A. You know I had very little to do with Jack Hollander really, directly that is. He always treated me fair enough I think. And I hope I have treated him fair enough too. He was sort of a laid back guy.
- Q. A little distant.
- A. Distant. Had some good ideas I guess so far as the faculty was concerned. But I just never got close to him. So I can't comment.

- Q. That would have been probably '83 he came in I guess. And that would have gone until your retirement?
- A. Yes. He left I think a little bit before I retired, didn't he?
- Q. No, I think he left probably about a year after you retired.
- A. Oh God, my memory. It's been 18 years.
- Q. Eighteen years, because I know that Gee I think came in '91, and Jack would have left maybe about a year and a half or so before that, maybe thereabouts.
- A. I didn't serve under Gee.
- Q. Jack retired under Jennings.
- A. Jack Hollander retired under Jennings?
- Q. He left under Jennings. And then Jennings, the only reason I remember is, I took a job on an acting basis at that point. And Jennings then left maybe within a year or half a year. Very quickly after Jack left Jennings left.
- A. I served under Jennings for about eight years I think, seven or eight years.
- Q. Sure. He was here nine, so you were here. He was President for nine years. As I said, I thought, I guess my impression of the Foundation and you're going to have to give me a correction on this, but my impression of the Foundation was that sometime, I don't know if it was under Ann Reynolds but sometime the Foundation, maybe things didn't start to go well for it in terms of morale, in the mid-70's, late 70's, early 80's. Maybe it was kind of flat then. What was your take on it? How did people feel? What was the morale in the Foundation like?
- A. It was up and down, Tom. I know the period you're talking about just now, under Ann Reynolds, and Ken and so forth, Ken was under pressure because of the

feedback we were getting from the faculty and so on. And we made some surveys and reviews. How did the faculty perceive us? We were going through that period. And of course whenever you do that, you're going to affect the morale of the people on the staff. They're wondering if something is going to happen to us or something not going to happen to us, what's going to happen. Are they going to do away with the Foundation and so on. Ann Reynolds, when she was there, she kept things in a pretty jumpy state. It was sort of a bumpy period.

Q. With Ann?

A. Yes.

Q. Did she get into the minutia of the Foundation?

A. She did with Ken more than with me. It didn't always go well with Ken on that. But she had some, I thought, strange ideas and could do this and could do that. We tried to tell her you had to be careful what you do and what you don't do because of the government contracts that we had and so on. She wanted us to do good, no doubt about it. She was getting feedback from the faculty and evidently felt she had to act. It was a little hectic for a while.

Q. She, I think, came from a background where she should have known a little bit about ...

A. She came to OSU from the University of Illinois, I believe.

Q. She might have come from Illinois, Chicago. I'm not sure but I believe she had a job where she was involved with grants and contracts, I believe, in one point in her career, as I think the current President. I think Karen Holbrook has that knowledge. She came up through that. Did you retire after Ken left?



A. No. He retired six months after I left. I retired in July, 1987 and I think he retired in January of 1988.

Q. I know Ken was concerned about a lot of things. He was concerned about his health but I suspect he was just frustrated with the damn place. I will say that was a disappointment to me that Ken retired. Let's say we pleaded with him not to.

A. Sure. I don't blame you. He was trying to do the right thing. You can be sure of that.

Q. Absolutely. Nobody was trying to get rid of Ken.

A. That's right.

Q. Ken was asked, "Please stay, please reconsider." He said, "I obviously thought about this before I told you, so I'm going."

A. Let me just say this, Tom. You were the Associate Vice President for Research before you became Executive Director of the Foundation. You became Executive Director after Ken left.

Q. Just as a placeholder.

A. But I want to tell you that, as far as I'm concerned, and I think Ken would say the same thing, that there could not have been a finer gentleman and scholar than Tom Sweeney as Vice President for Research and later on as Executive Director. I was not here when you were Executive Director of course.

Q. Thanks for saying that but I know I gave a lot of people stomach ulcers or whatever.

A. I don't think you did. I think you were fair at all times, as far as I'm concerned. And Ken would say the same thing.

- Q. I appreciate you saying that. Again, I know that events caused me and other things caused me to pass on some order that weren't so popular.
- A. Anybody in that position has got pressure. I was sorry to see you go to Notre Dame really, when I heard about it.
- Q. Well, I was ready for me to go. My time was up. Those jobs are, when you come in from a faculty position to a job like that, I think the first thing you have to write on your card on your desk is, "This job is not permanent." It was time for me to go and Notre Dame was a great place for me to go. We've got a few more minutes here if you can stay. Do you have any characters at the University that ought to be mentioned, particular people that you ran into? Of all the people I know, I think you probably were personally knowledgeable with more Buckeyes than anybody else.
- A. Oh, I probably am. There was one guy over in Chemistry by the name of Herrick Johnson.
- Q. There's a building named after him.
- A. He was quite a scientist.
- Q. Was he a low temperature guy or am I thinking of somebody else? Cryogenics.
- A. What was his first name? I'm trying to think. He worked on the atomic bomb. Later on after he left the University he formed his own company and was doing research out of Hilliard.
- Q. Cryogenics.
- A. Cryogenics. What was his first name? What was his first name? Am I thinking Herrick Johnson? Herrick was his first name. Herrick Johnson in Chemistry. He

was quite a guy. And you know he came in the office one day up on the third floor of the Administration Building and just chewed some secretary out. Tom Davis felt it was unnecessary. He got in an argument with Herrick Johnson. Tom took him, more or less, by the seat of the pants and took him out there to the railing out in the hallway. Now Herrick Johnson claims that Tom threatened to throw him over the railing.

Q. This was in the Administration Building.

A. There was no floor.

Q. And the third floor was just a railing type. I don't remember that but I know that was the situation.

A. The next thing Tom knows is that he gets a call from Fred Heimberger, the Vice President.

Q. Fred Heimberger.

A. Right. Who was the Vice President for Instruction and Research and to whom we reported to. And he said, "Tom, I understand that Herrick Johnson was up to see you." "Yes," he said. "I understand that you threatened to throw him over the railing of the third floor." He says, "That's right." And he says, "Why didn't you?" But he was quite a guy. He would give you problems. He was a little bit unreasonable at times but Herrick Johnson was a noted scientist. He had a part in working with other scientists on the A-Bomb.

Q. I think talented people are driven by, in fact they accomplish so much because they're talented. There was a similar situation with a great man in physics, who chewed out, and I'm trying to think whether it was Dick Wright's secretary. Was

overt and just gave her a hard time. Now this was much later on and just a phone call to point out that, “You’re placing your career in jeopardy doing that now. Before she files some type of complaint, why don’t you go over there and kind of make up to her?” And this guy did exactly that. I’m not going to mention his name because it isn’t relevant. Just a hard-nosed guy who talked the wrong way to somebody. Those days, I think, I hope are gone.

A. I’m awful thankful to have had the opportunity to be around an educational institution number one. Number two, to be around people who you just learn a lot from just by being around them. That’s what I think the faculty brings out when you’re in college to the students I think. Just rubbing elbows with the faculty, and to listen to them, can make an awful lot of difference. You can’t belittle that aspect of it, at least in my estimation. It’s just like, one of the best education’s I’ve ever gotten was caddying at the golf course when I was a kid. I began caddying at Dublin and Arlington when I was 12-13 years old. But you’d be surprised how a golfer, an adult, acting on the golf course can affect and give the impression to a youngster carrying a bag.

Q. And often not a good impression.

A. And often not a good impression but often that impression that kids gets is correct. You do learn just by being around people and rubbing elbows with them. I’m thankful that I’ve had that opportunity over the years. And again, I go back to being thankful to my mother and dad for moving us up here in this environment, because I think this environment certainly, I think, benefited me more than I benefited it.

- Q. Well, that's probably a good way to end this, Ray. And whoever listens to this, this man is a fount of information and can be mined for a lot more of it. I do want to say one thing on the tape. You know that we went to a new building not too long after you left. In fact, were you around when they were planning that?
- A. I think I was around, yes. The one on Kenny Road, yes.
- Q. And there came a point in time when the name of the building was discussed. I never told this to you but I will tell you now, that I suggested that it be the Bugno Building.
- A. Oh, is that right? Thank you for thinking about that.
- Q. You are Mr. Research Foundation. I'll tell you why they didn't do it. There was a guy named Tom Tobin, a fine man, who was the Development Director. And he said, "You know, we really need to save that building, we've got a donor, a potential donor in mind," and he was thinking about the Kettering family. He was thinking, "There's no place on campus where this illustrious graduate is recognized." I think he thought that would be a way to kind of take a building, research, he had been on the Board of the Foundation, but for some reason he never put that altogether.
- A. Oh, he didn't?
- Q. It's still called 1960 Kenny Road.
- A. I would not mind having a Kettering to supercede me on that one.
- Q. But I thought the Bugno Building would have been the right name to recognize the guy that had spent almost his entire working life there.

A. Well, I thank you Tom for that recommendation. I appreciate it. That's great. I would not have minded at all to have that Kettering name on there. He made an impression on me when I just listened to him talk. Here I am, 14 years old, listening to a guy here that changed the world. Gosh, yes.

Q. He did some things people said couldn't be done. You never could build a motor that small. Ray, thanks so much.

A. Thank you, Tom, for giving me the opportunity.

Q. I enjoyed working with you and I enjoyed this period of time talking with you.

A. If there's any need for any addition or correction or anything let me know.

Q. I don't know how they do this, Ray.

A. I'm sure there are things that I probably omitted in mentioning to you and I'll probably think about them later. But it's been a good ride for me anyway.

Q. Okay. Thanks very much.

A. Thank you.