

Eric Bradley's Interview
with
Mrs. Alice Johnson.

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I am Eric Bradley, I am Interviewing Mrs. Johnson on the date ~~12/10/90~~ 12/10/90. In Ishpeming, Michigan.

Me: Could you tell me when you were born?

Mrs. J: March 3, 1935. Oh a, let's see. how far is it. Oh. About 7. miles south of National Mine. And it's called Switers Basin now. I was born in a house. Were my grandmother was midwife for me.

Me: That's hard to believe. because I always grew up hearing hospital. And when you hear that someone was born in a house. you think it's peculiar.

Mrs. J: Right. well in those days. that. very few babies were born in hospitals. My brother was the only one born in a hospital. of all of the children in my family. because she lived in National Mine then and they couldn't get to Ishpeming. but once we moved way out there it was to far to go.

Me: And he was the youngest?

Mrs. J: He's the oldest.

Me: Really?

Mrs. J: See. we were still living in town then. but then we moved out to the farm. And that's about 10 miles from town.

Me: Do you have any brothers or sisters?

Mrs. J: yea. My brother is the oldest and he is sixty one. And I have a sister that's older than me. And she's a... 58 and her name is Jean and my brothers name is Roy. and I have two deceased sisters, Nancy and Mary Joe.

Me: O.K. Umm. On your parents... Do you know when your parents

Me: were born?

Mrs. J: yes. My Dad was Matt Annala. And he was born January. January 9, 1901. I was always a year behind a year so I never did get his age. And my mom was born in Michigan. In the Spur location. And she was born in 1905. On October 14th.

Me: O.k. (Umm) What years did you attend National Mine from kindergarden. to where? Or pre school to...

Mrs. J: Well I started at 4 years old. And they didn't pass me because they weren't supposed to. But they didn't send back either they let me go. (Ha Ha Ha). So and I had to spend a half a day at my Grampa's house. Then in National Mine because school was only half a day and the buses did not run for the kindergardens. So I stayed there the afternoon at my granddaddies place. two years in a row. And I had the afternoon in town to play with friends. So that was kind of nice. Umm. and that would have been. Well that would give me thirteen years ~~there~~ there, but I took a year off because in 8th grade I went. My mom and Dad moved out west for one year, so I was in Farago Idaho. For my 8th grade year. And then I came back.

Me: (Umm)

Mrs. J: (Ha Ha Ha) And I spent the next four years of high school, here. And a... I ~~spent~~ have been teaching for 16 years. So I thought I would have approximately 29 years. In that wonderful place.

Me: Oh my Gosh (Ha Ha Ha) I can't even say that 29 years in school. You know when you said you started at 29 years. And every one here and... started at 5 or 6 does that tell you something. (Ha Ha Ha).

Mrs. J: Well I was so anxious. To go and the teachers allowed me to be here.

Mrs. J: And a... but it wasn't really league for me to be there so they couldn't pass me. So it was nice. I spent two years in kindergarten. Just like the young ones do now. Actually.

Me: OK. (umm) What are the names were any of your teachers in grade school. There must be quite a few.

Mrs. J: Well... I have a... Mrs. Gleason. For Kindergarten for two years. And then I had Viola Mason which is now Viola Magnuson. But she was Mason then. As you saw on my first grade card. here. In second grade I had Margery Sunberg. And a. she got married just before or, maybe while I was in that class. She might have been single while I had her and she might have been Margery Sunberg later. But I have to say she was my very favorite elementary teacher. And I had Else Winberg she and Viola were both single. And in those days you didn't have too many married teachers. Because just... well when my mother was a teacher she couldn't - could not longer teach after she was married.

Me: Your mother was a teacher?

Mrs. J: Yes. After she graduated, she went to school for 1 summer and was able to teach. You could do that. You could go to the Normal School which was Northern Michigan University but it was called the normal school then. And she taught for a year in Michigamee and went back for summer school and taught for a rather school year. Year in Michigamee. And then the next year she taught at the Cliff Drive School here where the Tilden Mine was here. And she was boarding at her boyfriend's, who is my dad. She was staying with the Annalas. And got married in April. but they didn't tell anybody they eloped because she could no longer teach ~~where~~ ~~she~~ once she got married. So when her teaching ended that spring they told every body.

Mrs J: So she could no longer teach And she taught for three years. (41)

Me: She must have really enjoyed teaching to go through all of that stuff.

Mrs J: Well... She evidently did. And it's too bad that she had to stop. Because in those days you couldn't teach if you were married.

Me: (Umm) When you mentioned your favorite teacher why was she your favorite teacher? What impact did she have on you.

Mrs J: Well. It's hard to remember back to second grade. but she was young and I think ~~we~~ we all liked her. because she was not like the old school type person. She was probably not as firm and harsh. and probably let us be... do more things. Not that the others didn't teach us. She I'm sure. they were good teachers, but we liked her because she was young and seemed... different. in those days most of the teachers were old. I guess that's why. But one thing I remember we exchanged gifts at christmas time and she had my name. And I had been just longing for a book of paper dolls in the dime store. that she bought for me. And I didn't know until I had opened the gifts that I had looked at and loved. And there they were. And she had taught for me. (HaHaHa) And maybe that had an impact on me too.

Me: Oh my Gosh. you never hear about that kind of stuff happening now. Ok. Do you remember any humorous or interesting stories about you grade school teachers. And I can't wait to hear this. (Ha Ha Ha)

Mrs J: My grade school teachers?

Me: ~~Yes~~ (yep)

Mr. J: Ohh. Dear. Right now I can't think of anything. Umm. we had so much respect for our teachers that we were all in awe of them. I can't remember anything Sunny really. Umm. Right now. I know something Sunny that happened but wasn't very Sunny at the time though. but maybe I was in grade school when this happened. I had forgotten my mittens and we spent an hour - almost an hour out side every noon.

Me: So how long are the classes?

Mr. J: O.K. That's a good question! We started at nine and we had an hour from 12 to 1 o'clock can you imagine. And then we went until 4 o'clock. We went to 1-4 then. And when by the time I got home in the evening. after riding the bus after circulating around so many places. cut were I lived - it was five o'clock. So we often in the winter didn't get home until after dark. But we had a whole hour o'clock and we played that whole hour. And one time - one noon time I had forgotten my mittens. In my class room and I think it was third grade. And Mr. Annala was in charge of. you had to ask him. He was sitting in the office. And I went to ask him if I could go to my room to get my mittens. And he said no! So I went back into the lunch room. which is the Art room was one lunch room.

Me: Really?

Mrs. J: Yes. the art room was the lunch room then. And because the kitchen wasn't part of the Umm. Industrial Arts there once we had hot lunches. There was a small kitchen right across right below the stairs there. Right where the double doors are. anyway I went back And I said. I'll ask to go to the bathroom and

Mr. J: I'll sneak and get my mittens. And thats what I did. and when I was coming back to get from the bathroom he stepped me.

me: (OOO)

Mrs. J: And there were my mittens in my pocket. And I sat in the office and cried for the rest ~~of that~~ that hour. that lunch hour. (Ha Ha Ha) It wasn't very funny then but I laugh about it now.

Me: O.k. Umm. Now lets jump up to junior high. Now this is the part that I would like to get lots of meat on. Because I'm in junior high myself.

Mrs. J: Well, sure well see I was cut in Faragit Idaho. for my ^{8th} grade year. Of course you can ask me about that. but thats not (you know) about Nations Mine.

Me: Do you remember of the names of you junior high and High school students and high school teachers? Mostly teachers.

Mrs. J: Well, the same kids were in my class (you know) through Kindergarten through 12th We didn't have too many changes Umm. But we were really anxious about going into junior high because we would get ~~here~~ Home Ec. and Gym.

Me: Thats some of the reasons that kids to day expect.

Mrs. J: yes. And I just couldn't wait to have Gym. I just thought it would be so great. I guess I thought It was pretty good. We didn't do a lot of things. We did exercises.

Mrs. J: Can you imagine that we did exercises.

Me: Calisthenics?

Mr. J: No. well more arabic type exercises. And then we would play a few games. But we just thought it was great. And we had the same teacher for Home Ec. and Gym.

Me: Really?

Mrs. J: yes. Mrs. Bentis taught Home Ec. and Gym. And the first thing we did in Home Ec. In our sewing class we'd have sewing for half a year and cooking for half a year. And in the sewing half we'd have to sew on buttons, and a few other.

Mrs. J: And in the sewing half we had to learn ^(P. 7) to sew on buttons. And a Sew other. And learn to run the machine. And then we made aprons. And we always had sewing first so when we started to cook we had the aprons to wear for cooking (Ha) Well I found out that I was not a good sewer (Ha. Ha Ha.) I never. I never accomplished anything I never did a good job.

Me: That sounds similar!

Mrs. J: I had not sewn a thing in my life so how. you know. I thought I'd be great but I thought I would love it but I couldn't do it very well at all. So I think I got a C in the final exam. And that just about crushed me. I was lucky to get a C I think. I wasn't good at it at all.

Me: Do you remember any of the names of your junior high teachers.

Mrs. J: Well, it was the same ones see. Umm

Me: you mean the elementary taught junior high too.

Mrs. J: No, No. I mean the same ones as high school. I - m's - lead you.

me: (Ohhh)

Mrs. J: OK. So once we got ~~down~~ up to junior high we had the same teachers as the high schoolers had. So Mrs. Bantia was my hom ec and gym and Mr. Annala my uncle was the English teacher. in 7th grade A... Mr. Bath taught Reading class in the study hall. And they had a case of books in the front of the room. Here's what we did for reading... we sat in there and we would look for a book

Mrs. J: And there would be books like Zaire Grace (8) you know and not real up to date ones (Ha Ha Ha.) And Umm we would sit and read it and then write a report on it. Or... I think there was some oral work. We would have to go and tell him about it. And then we'd go and check out another one. Well needless to say not too many kids read those books.

Me: (Ha Ha Ha.)

Mrs. J: Ha Ha. I really don't. I don't know what he did for an exam. I can't remember what he did for exams. And we did have exams. Umm I remember Mr. Annala. Being really strict in Reading. And we had to get up and sometimes and give speeches and a... I really enjoyed his class. I had lots and lots of respect for him. I don't think I did as well as I should have but I was the typical kid that really liked extra curricular activities. more than... but I wanted good grades so that made me stick to my classes. probably more than anything. I wasn't... I didn't apply myself as much as I should have.

Me: could you describe some of your other teachers.

Mrs. J: If I could find a card... could you shot that off please.

Me: Ok. a... where did we leave off.

Mrs. J: At junior high. Ok another thing we looked forward to were parties.

Mrs. J: Every class from 7 through 12, hosted 1 party ⁽⁹⁾
a year. In 7th and 8th the 7th graders would go
to the 8th grade party and the 8th to the 7th. So we
would have two party's a year. When we were
in junior high. And they gave us these like colum-
bus Day and a... some other non descript holiday.
Since the high school got the biggies like Hallow-
-een and Thanksgiving. n. Christmas, and Easter
or something like that or Valentines.

Me: So do we. Kind a got stipped.

Mrs. J: Well we did n't really care. because the party's. We had
really a great time. And heres what we had to do we
selected a comity. every class had a staff and I think
~~we~~ 7 through 12 ~~had~~ officers. And then these officers
would elect a comity or they would be the comity I'm
not sure now. To do different things I'm sure
they would elect more people. because we had a
invitation comity and you get a comity to get
and create your own invitations and send them
to all of the kids who were invited and in junior
high that was all of the kids in 7th and 8th grad
And this would be an example of the invitation.

Me: (Ha Ha Ha)

Mrs. J: And we would pass them out you know like a week
or so before the party every one would get invited
Then there was a program comity from a group of
People who would decide the type of games you would
play. And they would bring the records for the dance
And then there was a lunch comity and they would
decide what kind of food you ate.

Mrs. J. and then you would have a clean up comitty. ⁽¹⁰⁾
and it was thure job to take care of you know
after you finished eating you would clean everything
up.

Me: I wonder why they don't have them now it seems
so planned out.

Mrs. J: It was an wonder ful experiance because you
had to work together as a group you had responsibil-
-ities, you had to plan a menu. And you had to
decide you had to plan the kind of music you want.
And set every thing up. Ohh, and you had a decor-
ation comitty. That was my very favorite one to be
on because you had to decorate the gym and its was
all so special the party's we would start with two
a year and with the 7th and 8th grade and then
you would have 4 a year. And each class would
try to out do the other I think in doing special
things that the party's were real special.

Me: Just better and better.

Mrs. J: It was nice to be a guesst but it was even
better to be on one of the comitties. To take part
and plan it.

Me: I mean with now a days dances all you have to do
is show up. and thats about it.

Mrs. J: Right. Well we learned a lot, it was a real learning
experiance And you would plan a menu and you had
to order it you know then. I cant remember if the kids
had to pay a little money I think they did.

Mrs. J: And we would have to take care of the money (II) we would have a fresher. and make sure our lunch didn't exceed our budget.

Me: That sounds just like managing a household.

Mrs. J: Sure, it was great. That was a real good experience.

Me: Ok. Do you have any homework, ... before I get to this since we are on the subject Umm. What did you wear in school.

Mrs. J: O.K. Umm. We were never allowed to wear slacks. never.

Me: The girls wore dresses.

Mrs. J: The girls wore dresses. And as a result in the ~~the~~ winter we wore long brown stockings on white stockings. And we had to wear garters because there were no such things as pantyhoses. O.K. So we had old fashioned garter belts to hold up our stockings (Ha Ha Ha) And you know we never really had I guess white stockings cost more than got dirty or so every body had brown long stockings on (Ha Ha Ha)

Me: Oh my Gosh.

Mrs. J: And then we wore snowpants to wear over it so when we played out that whole hour. That we had enough cloths on. And I'm sure we got what almost every one had wooden snowpants and coat. And they'd be drying on the radiator. so (Ha Ha Ha)

Mrs. J: So that always smelt terrible. (Ha Ha Ha) ②

Me: O.K. Were there any special Sads or sayings when you were a kid in school This is along with jounionhig

Mrs. J: Ohh yes.

Me: Special Sads. like there were jelly bracelets for us. and every thing like that.

Mrs. J: Well I guess we all tried to look dress like wool sweaters and shirts were the thing for the girls and for the boys were a lot of jeans and sweat let me think. I... I don't know Right know they were long the cloths when we got into high school it seemed the dresses went almost two our ankles and we must have looked pretty dumpy (Ha Ha Ha) I'm sure we did. And even then we were anklets. you know short now they were called anklets. socks with saddle shoes were really popular then. Do you know what saddle shoes are? What do they call them know? They have a different name know. Umm. They have the two colors. with the brown. saddle shoes were on them. I cant. I don't see a picture here.

Me: It don't especially jog to mind

Mrs. J: No. But. Yes we had long. I guess the only time we were allowed to wear pants was when we decorated to use them as part of a cheerleaders outfit. we wore slacks.

Me: For cheerleading?

Mrs. J: Yes

me: Because usually nowadays it's completely opposite. (13)

Mrs. J: Yes I know. Isn't that strange. One year two of us wore skirts and two wore slacks, and that was.

me: (Ha Ha Ha.)

Mrs. J: Listen, we had to get our own uniforms. We never had a catch and a... then we ended up wearing sweaters when the boys were ordering their school shirts, we ordered ours. One year we had cardigans. long blue cardigans. (Ha Ha). With gold skirts that really were like knee long ones. And then we ordered our V necked sweatering sweaters. with those with like a megaphone across and each year we would get another design added on our sleeves. like the number of years like. And then we had navy blue slacks with UM on the megaphone. And we all wore the same that year finally we looked I think kind decent

me: (Ha Ha Ha) O.K. Umm. How were kids expected to act or behave and what kinds of punishment

Mrs. J: It was really a strict time a... they ran a real tight ship um even the mitten deal I had to ~~sign~~ sit in the caddy at lunchtime a... I really didn't get into trouble so I don't think. And I don't think. Any one in my class died but I remember shortly after I graduated & Even after girls were able to wear slacks but boys couldn't wear jeans unless they were dress & jeans.

Mrs. J: They had to be like the black dress (19) type. And they couldn't wear engineer's type boots. And at the time that was really the style. And they wouldn't allow them to wear them to school. I can't think of any right now. Ohh Punishment Umm There were kids that got expelled

Me: It must have been pretty serious.

Mrs. J: Yea I'd they were caught smoking on the school grounds something like that they were expelled Umm... I can't think of any other I'd they got in trouble on the bus, but not too many kids dare to do too much, they didn't dare. There were a few who were rebels. None of them that were in my class and close to my age, that I specifically remember did so I can't remember what the punishment was I'd they acted up in any way they did get expelled.

Me: What was your favorite subject? Well we already covered that. Reading was.

Mrs. J: Well reading wasn't my favorite subject (Ha Ha) Not in 8th grade 7th grade it was. A... Home Ec or Gym I loved, and English was always my favorite then when I got in to high school. I didn't tell you my favorite teacher in high school was. Mr. Tomas I respected him so a lot and I learned a lot from him. I respected my uncle a lot and learned a lot and I really enjoyed his classes. But Mr. Tomas was his real son, happy go lucky and he came. I think.

Mrs. J: he just got there when he went to high (15) school. And he made science fun and I think he was my favorite teacher in high school Umm. I wasn't always the best student, and I remember kind of rebelling in his class I didn't think I had to take general science because I had plenty of credit. We had to make so many credits and they said I couldn't have another study hall and I rebelled against that so I wasn't a very good kid in there but I ended up eventually enjoying it very much. Umm we had Mr. Bath for Government and civics. And then I had World History and I wasn't really crazy about that, but I had Lydia Deguara for my senior English when you in junior year ~~for~~ and senior year English and it wasn't called English anymore it was called American Literature and of course I loved literature I especially remember her classes. Classes of an English Literature I really enjoyed that class. She had us do some writing and a... she had us write the day after we lost the ~~ear~~ championship game from Houghton we won the ~~at~~ districts that year ~~to~~ and I was the cheer leader. And we went to Houghton to play in the regionals and we lost the game up there and she had us write how we felt about that game. And I thought I did a real nice writing. And she ~~had~~ read it to the class and her voice quivered like she was going to cry. (Ha Ha Ha.) I thought it was pretty good.

Me: (Umm). This one we kind of covered with cheer-leading. And what kinds of extracurricular activities were offered

Mrs. J: Well that was the one and only for girls ohh and (16) also Sorensen's I took part in Forensics.

Me: They had Forensics?

Mrs. J: Yes, but they were much different from what we have now. In fact, when you were in 9th or 10th grade you chose umm. an article or like someone you found a... something you liked written by someone else. Something someone else wrote on a topic you enjoyed. It could be usually a current topic. And a... then you memorized it. You took someone else's work, memorized it and then you would have orations. The ones in 9th and 10th were called declamations. In the 11th and 12th you wrote it your self. You would do research, get ideas from other people and you would have to write the oration your self. learn it and give it. And I in my junior and senior year. I wrote one on the Korean War. "The War in Korea is nothing but a bloody battle field." See I still remember part of it. And I won with that. It was very controversial that I was against it and I won with that one, first place. And I remember Mr. Bath. And then we had to give them on the stage at night in front of our parents and anyone else who came. I always... My hands always shake so I put them behind me that was something I couldn't control. I wasn't that nervous but when I sound when I started I had this tendency to have my hands shake and I still do. I & I'm in front of a group my hands shake. It's some thing that started back then. So I always held them behind me (ha) which I hated but I couldn't help it. And I thought I gave it pretty well. But you know I.

Mrs. J: Didn't do a lot of gesture ing. And Mr. (17) Bath said "The winner is!" And he used the word "he" but it was... It didn't mean gender "he" you know I thought it was a man. And then I was suprized because I won first place. (Ha Ha Ha.) But I didn't expect it. I hear him say I thought for sure he ment someone else.

Me: O.K. Umm Did any sports teams. were there any.

Mrs. J: Yes. See

Me: Tournaments.

Mrs. J: When I was in my Junior and Senior year we were the districts champion ships. in baskette ball. And a.. what else... we had. we might have had baseball. There was a time when the boys had baseball teams. in the summer and played basketteball in the winter. Umm. The only thing we had was cheerleading. And then we had Forensics. We always had plays umm. junior and Senior class plays. And the programs that Mrs. Gleason put on. Umm I cant think of any thing else. but those were. you know. but we really enjoyed every thing else. Especially basketball. That's what we enjoyed the most.

Me: Umm. What kind of effect did it have on the school.

Mrs. J: The Extra Curricular you mean?

Me: Yea. The sports, Games. was there a lot of team spirit.

Mrs. J: Ohn yes. Umm Ohn a... do you remember when the school had its stage? Or has it been covered up since.

Me: I was at North Lake, and yes we did have a stage.

Mrs. J: But not at National Mine. It was covered up
by then.

(18)

Mc: I went to National Mine for one year at the
Kindergarden.

Mrs. J: O.K. the games all the sports. The show that we
did have, were real important to the community
you would have a filled auditorium. Because we had
the auditorium as a basketball court. And it was
like on a stage. We'd sit down in regular you
know auditorium ~~seats~~ seats. Like you were watching
a play, that would be filled up. I always remember
a lot of support from the community, you know we'd
run out on the stage and do our cheers, we were
tough too, we never allowed our kids to "boe"
And if any one started "boeing" we would tell
them to stop. (Ha) We were really leaders. And
sometimes the adults would boe and then we
would feel really bad. That they were displaying
poor sportsman ship.

Mc: What kinds of plays or programs did you take part in
and were staged.

Mrs. J: Right, well Mrs. Gleason put on her apparatus each year
Christmas and then there was the senior class play,
and that was really really special, usually it was a
three act play and a proacture. Sen's long time proacture
for a long time there was always someone in charge
who would direct and there was always a filled house
and a... Ours was called (Happy Daze) I was Connie
Maxwell the oldest daughter and we had some kidnapers
and it was real fun, Nothing serious it was real fun.
Now In my first year teaching at National Mine.

Mrs. J: In 1973, That was a year before you see '74 was the last graduating class. The last group of students to have a senior class play there. I was the director, at the first year I was the director. It was a real challenge A real challenge And I went into it kind of blindly not realizing what was going to happen. The kids were so good and they did such a good job, we did three one act plays that year. And I was really fortunate to have a good bunch of kids then the one play that I chose. We looked over all the plays and they chose two and I chose 1 and it turned out to be the worst one I made the ~~sworst~~ choice. It didn't have as much action, it didn't have much interest to the audience. In fact I think the kids really didn't like it as much because it wasn't as good. It was thinking back to when I was in school. It was a play like I had been in. That's why I chose it. You know it wasn't, it didn't turn out to be interesting at all. although it went off o.k. but the other two were the Sun ones. That the kids had chosen them selves. And I learned a lot from that. ~~for~~ You know, interests have changed. (Ha Ha) in all that time that was a... 21 years later.

Me: What lunch time was like This is a rather important thing because the lunch period is so short,

Mrs. J: Well I think in our Lunch room the whole school ate at one time. See we didn't have a lot of students I had 11 in my class. So probably the junior high and high ate at once. I think the lunch room which is smaller than you have now. Not to much it wasn't larger. we had long wooden tables.

Mrs. J: And when I first started every one brought ⁽²⁰⁾ their own lunch they didn't have hot lunches. And a... we had mills i's jugs ya know glass jugs. Mason jars of milk. ~~I~~ And I don't know how we kept them when it was warm. I don't remember. We would put our lunches on a rack when we got there in the morning. We'd go into that into the doors where the flag pole is and there were two doors into the lunch room we don't have any longer which is now the ~~ture~~ Ant. room. And there was a rack on one wall while ya walk in. You'd set your pail or lunch bag there. And it would stay there until you'd eat lunch, at 12 o'clock. And a... then we'd have walk to 10 o'clock and none watched us. We could at noon or go sleigh riding down the hill. One time. a... we rode my girl friend's bike we lived in National Minn. and I was on the back and my girl friend was on the front and the wheel started, we were going fast down this hill and she lost her balance, and I flew over the handle bars and broke her teeth out and got all banged up, and my dad who was working at the store, Annala's store, took her home. That's what happened at noon time because we had no one watching us. We could wander all over the whole community. (Ha) And no one got into any trouble that I know of just one accident that happened and we should have known better, to ride two on a bike. It was some thing we shouldn't have done but it happened.

Mc: I am surprised ya didn't have any supervision.

Me: Considering how strict it was in school. (2)

Mrs. J: Right, well I guess we never thought of doing any thing out of the way. Yes you know what we would do mainly when I was young, you know the bluff.

Me: Yes.

Mrs. J: We would slide down the bluff all winter long at noon time. We wouldn't even wear our snowsuits were sliding down the bluff.

Me: Now its restricted.

Mrs. J: I know now you can't go there

Me: So umm. We already covered the principle, your Uncle. umm. This is one I have to ask you. One of the most important, did you have lots of homeworks and if ya did what was it like.

Mrs. J: By the time I got home and ate, all winter by the time I got home it was dark. Until 11 I was 16, we didn't have electricity. I would sit around an aladdin lamp. And do my homeworks. And I don't remember doing alot. I don't remember doing alot in there. So I must have done most of it in school. Umm. I think we had the most for English. Math I can't remember doing very much of. And I remember doing extra things for science. Booklets. Umm I now some of them. That's what I really really enjoyed. I loved drawing. You know things I really enjoyed doing like cells. I just really like that. Maps. I remember doing a lot of those for History. I remember doing a lot of that. There must have been 4 or 5 for American History. And I remember doing those types of things.

Mrs. J: At home and in my study hall. (22)
Umm. I did have a study hall I think.
in each of those grades I had a study hall.
And here's what happened to me one time.
they were taking a survey of how many
minutes kids use the study hall. and secretly
And there was my uncle sitting there. In
study hall watching me. And I wasted
most of that study hall. And he
was giving me dirty looks and I should
have known something was up. (Ha Ha Ha)
And I was the typical time waster
and that makes me so mad at myself
right now. Because I can't bear other kids
to waste their times either. I remember that.
Maybe I spent 20 minutes working it that. beca
se our periods are longer ~~days~~

M: Do you remember how long.

Mrs. J: Probably an hour. We must have had an hour period.
that was in high school. Because I don't remember
how that long for eight classes. I think we
had 6. we probably had 3 in the morning
and 3 in the afternoon. I'll have to
think about that.

M: Umm. What did you do after school. Where did
you and your friends go and hang out.

Mrs. J: Well we didn't hang out in ~~National~~ Mine. because
there was no place. And we did stay after
school. I guess we did soon practice. So
cheer leaders practice we had to stay after
school. But most of the time we practice. Because
we had that hour.

Mrs. J: And that's when the basketball team ⁽²³⁾ practiced to. They had that hour at noon and the boys would hurry and eat their lunches and practice almost an hour at noon. And we didn't have any late buses. And these kids had no way to get home. And the parents couldn't come running for them because they didn't have cars then. You know they lived too far on the wire poor. In those days that were far. The Sathers were working and that's the one car they had. I'm sure I had my grandparents home. That I could always go to and then get a ride home with my dad. Who would work in the store until six. And the other kids who lived down town couldn't do that. And the other cheerleaders who were with me lived right in National Mine. So they could stay at home and not worry about the bus. There were no after school activities, no boy far practicing classes. But then we would have to have a ride home. And we had to take care of that our selves. We never had a late bus. We probably had two busses. I should show you a picture of the bus. Look at that.

Me: Ohh you've got one.

Mrs. J: Yes. Tenn that odd.

Mrs. J: O.K. The graduating ceremony was really special in these days we had two nights for seniors. We had Facaloria on Sundays when the Ministers would talk to us. And I don't know if we sat on a stage that night. But he would kind of give a message to us, and then I think we came in with our caps and gowns. And then we'd have our

Mrs. J: Senior Danquette, which was really special (24)
the janitors would put it on, there was
another nice cent. they would plan it all
for us and then we would give our past
History and Ideas for the Future and it was
a beautiful program. We would dress in
our best. you know our graduation was on
a Tuesday or Wednesday. and our graduation
was on a ~~Friday~~ Thursday night. and we'd
have a real special program. We had
music by the chorus and we'd have a special
school board member would give a speech or
else Mr. Bath. the superintendent we had a
the president of the class would give a gift
to the school. we'd all pitch in and a
then we'd have our salutatorian and I was
the salutatorian I gave the welcoming speech
My welcoming speech was called Lasting Impr
essions. and I quoted Long Fellow's "Song of
Leda": "Lives of great men all remind us we can
make our lives sublime, slowly leaving behind
us. footprints of time. I talked the footprints
we would leave. And in fact I wasn't as nervous
as I usually was. I don't remember my hands
shaking that much. I did a pretty good job.
And then we always had a motto and ours was
"In our selves our future lies. Our colors were blue and
white. We had picked out the American Beauty rose.
And. In my senior memories the biggest event was graduation
and the senior class play And the victory speech
and that was by Ronald Sarri. The valedictorian.
who ended up getting an MBA from Harvard and
is now in management of Boeing Air Force.

Me: Is that in Seattle.

Mrs. J: Yes.

Me: My uncle is one of the inspectors. Sen that.

Mrs. J: And he has a six bedroom home on Lake Washington
and as he gave his valedictorian.

Mrs. J: Which he now has a MBA From Harvard. And he owns (25) an airline parts factory and I'm sure making a lot of money. He was a real smart guy. To have someone do so well from our class. But then the chorus would sing something nostalgic and then we'd march. And in the back we'd all stand around and congratulate us. They would give us flowers and such. Everyone would get a rose from the huge of roses that was on stage and then everyone would leave and go each individual party. But we always had a grad party some where we would end up together. With is not unlike where we do to day. We never had any alcohol (Ha) We never did any whay. and a... it was a real real special night. And the next day we had to come to school. And a L thinks that's the final semester every one sigh our programmes. Our graduation programs. The school paper was called the echo and the last echo was devoted to the seniors. And all of the things like the senior hierarchy. Futures predictions and all of that. something about each graduate would be in that last Echo. and we got that the last day of school. So the last day was special for us.

Me: It sounds so different from now you just show up sitting there until they call your name and go up and get your diploma, speeding down the run way.

Mrs. J: Well there was only eleven in our class. So we were like one family and a the chorus would not be just the seniors that would be the whole high school with mostly girls. I'd you were a grad senior you would be and sing. Umm. But I thought it was a big event at school.

Me: Were you able to make contact with any of your childhood friends.

Mrs. J: Yes.

Mrs. J: Well I still live were most of them live. Ohh I have to tell you this. Ronald Sari our Validictorian. Who we hadn't seen, since we graduated. And that's 37 years. And last year he came to visit his sister. And so we had a little reunion here in this house. As many kids around even from classes below because we only had 11 kids in our class. We contacted as many as we could. plus others. We had a wander Sull time and every one told him what we had been doing And he gave us a kind of synopsis of his life since he graduated. Wich was wander Sull.

Me: That sounds nice. Did any teachers have an effect or an impact on you?

Mrs. J: Yes. I think they all had help. but, my uncle had a large impact. Mrs. Dequera had, she was such a gentel lady. and Mrs. Gleason and Mrs. Magnuson. because she is still around. Umm. Mrs. Wasburg. who taught my kids but I didn't have her for a teacher. But I had her for a sub. she was there when I left but she kept teaching. I really enjoyed her. Mrs. Ranta even though I was not a good sewer. I think I caused her problems. In gym because I always wanted to do more than we were supposed to. I wanted to be more active.

Mrs. J: And do more things. And when we (27)
took showers, we would clog the shower
needs. Ha. Ha Ha.

Me: Ha. Ha Ha

Mrs. J: I was just a terrible sore. And here's what
happened in cooking class. We mixed up the
batter and me being the bossy person I am
I think I did most of the mixing. We
were putting it into the cake pan we rememb-
ered we hadn't put the sugar in. So we
were scraping it out of the pan to put
it back into the bowl. And Mrs. Bontis
spotted what we were doing chh that
was a really good not good thing to
happen. (Ha Ha Ha) So I don't remember
what she did to us. But I think we got
quite a good tanning lashing for that.
Evidently she thought we were ~~de~~ fooling
around and we might have been. We
probably were. (distant crash)

Me: Oh my. What years did you work at National
Mine.

Mrs. J: I graduated from Northers in the spring of
'73 And I was already hired by the school
at my graduation. And they needed teachers
because we had consolidated. And they needed
more teachers. So they hired me before I had
even gone through with my graduation. So I
knew when I graduated I already ~~had~~ had a job.
Mrs. May had just retired and a I have
to say ~~Mrs~~ Mr. Buesing, before I came to Alder-
ton he was my boss. He was the assisting Principle
and when I went to work as a clerk there for
half a day. Mr. Milman was my boss then.

Mrs. J: And after he died Mr. Buesing took his place And Umm. I was a full time secretary for the principle. And he felt that I go to school to be a teacher. And my sister had done so and a friend who was going so between the three of them that's what made me go to school. So then I took Mrs. Mayhew's job. And a librarian and a teacher. And at that time I taught 5 classes and three periods of the middle school library. (28)

Me: what was the most rewarding part of your career.

Mrs. J: So far? I can't say right off the bat there was so many umm any time I think I motivate a kid it's a reward.

Me: ~~Umm~~ yes.

Mrs. J: When you wrote some of the things you wrote last year that was a reward. When I see students later on and they say for example I saw a student that is now writing for the Houston gazette. She thought I might have helped her start her career. that was wonderful. But being a part of National Mine and being a part of the wonderful things that are going on there and the great facility. to think my reward was that I did what I did I'm so happy that I went back to school and got my bachelors degree and now I have my Masters. after I had been out of school for 17 years. As reward enough right there.

Me: Umm. as much possible detail please describe your job.

Mrs. J: Right now taking care of two libraries and 4 classes of English. That's just so, I can't think of the word. Such a full time job I just wish I had more time. To put into it. But I have the sense to my family so I have to let go of it over the weekend. And some evenings, but I really do shut down my mind, because it's so challenging and demanding. Umm, books are such a big part of my life and I made it apart of my family's lives, to and I'm glad for that. My grand children have become lovers of books. Umm And you know I just, I would love to put more of my time in my job, but I can't put out more than I do. I would need the whole summer for that to do what I would like to do in the libraries.

Me: what is the most challenging part of your job?

Mrs. J: Difficult is to make my self sit and correct papers night after night and it's not that I don't like doing it. I enjoy it but just like kids hate home work and I need a break now and then. And it's such a demanding day. It's so full that umm sometimes I get physically tired. And I have to take a break. There's nothing that I any part of my job I don't like. I love it all.

Me: (Ha Ha)

Mrs. J: I really love it.

Me: After you described your jobs I would think it's a bother.

Mrs. J: Oh Its not a bother. The demands are great but I wish I could do a better job. You know. Put more time into each part of it thats what I wish I think I could do better, if I had more time. but because its so busy I dont have that time.

My life is busy other wise to you know. I've so much going on. I have 5 grand-daughters and I love that to do I have to take time away from school to do that.

Me: Umm. Why did you choose this career to go into this?

Mrs. J: Ok. After I realized how much school meant to me. Umm I always think school is, being part of any learning activity is where the action is. And thats the kind of action I like. But I didnt realize that until I went back to being a secretary and being away from it made me realize how much I liked it. And I was still a little bit afraid to go into teaching. It was a risk I was almost afraid to take. I was afraid to take that risk. But I kinda got pushed into it. My husband for I had a friend who wanted me to go with her. and Mr. Bussing said Do it I ~~so~~ so I did. And once I started college My first semester I had a 4 pointer. No one could ever have stopped me then. That was. I was such a competitive person

Me: Kind of Bitten By the Bug huh?

Mrs. J: I was. I could never have stopped them.

Mrs. J: Once I had the bat And don't forget (31)
I had 4 children, in between them. And
I was really ready to get back into educ
ation. I hadn't realized what I had
been missing. And I graduated with
highest honors. Summa cum laude.

Me: That's something to be proud of!

Mrs. J: I was proud of it. You know I sat here
in this kitchen every single night till
the wee hours, every night. And then I
went to summer school for 3 summers.
I had 2 minors and a major. So I had to
go to summer school in in those days.
it was 8 weeks, now it's 6 weeks. I got
through 1 semester in May ~~and~~ had about
3 weeks off and then went to summer
school I then had about another 3 weeks
off then went back to a rather full weeks
year.

Me: Wagh. I don't think I could even go through
all of that.

Mrs. J: And all that with a family.

Me: That is unbelievable.

Mrs. J: But I really loved it. I was determined I
would not give up.

Me: Umm... How have you seen the duties of your
job change over the years?

Mrs. J: Well I've changed and so. I was strictly a
high school Librarian. The second year. The
first year the high school was there and
that was challenging. And I was the high
school teacher as well as the librarian.

Mrs J: But that was called junior high then. And then when the high school moved over to West Wood. I was the middle school. And that summer we had to take hundreds of books and send them over to West Wood to their library. And we had to determine what ~~etc~~ goes and what stays. And that was a big job. I had the help of my ~~two~~ daughters on that. Because we had carts full of books. So that was a real challenge. Um It's always been my job. sometimes I've been had reading and English. 7th grade English. And I had taught 7th and 8th Grade English. I changed to 6th grade a... English. about 7 years ago and I wasn't too happy with that project. While I had, and I love 7th Grade English. 6th grade I loved it too in fact I thought it was even better. And then when Mrs. Tripp came I went back to 7th. You have to be able to re change it. and making change. ... (End of 1st tape.)

Mrs. J: My first year I had 10th grade English. and the rest of the time in the time in the library. and that was 3 periods out of the day. and then when the High school was built. my job changed because I didn't spend time in there as much. and I had 1 library for the middle schoolers. Then when the elementary library started. that's when I really had a change. and now I have to give a check out time and a story time. from the elementary of the Young 5's. Third grade has stories and 4th & 5th use it just for check out. Once a week. I had to schedule that in. there was a time when I taught 3 classes and I spent the rest of the time in the library. then I had Study Hall plus the library and 3 classes and now I have 4 classes. This year I asked help from mothers. to help in the elementary library. And I had help in processing.

Mrs. J: Because I still don't have time to get my work done. So they've been really helpful to me, helping straightening the library, checking out. A... We've got the elementary library running nicely. And they tell stories. And I basically do the rest like pressing.

Me: During your careers did you experience any special projects programs or extra curricular activities?

Mrs. J: Oh. I talked about the senior class play. That was the very first senior production. For my very first year. Which was very scary. I really didn't know what to expect. But every thing went nicely and the kids were great, ~~but~~ I was involved in fund raising. We had bottle drives, and I did direct the class play which was fun, even though I was quite ~~the~~ motive of course. to what would happen from my own part of my own play. I guess I kind of patterned my self after my own director, which helped. And I remember only once blowing up at the kids when they were fooling around. and I think they were surprised when I did. But I tried very hard. We had three one act plays and the one I picked did not work as well as the other ones the kids picked. And we needed a small motor cycle and we did borrow some ones and I think ~~it~~ it was Bert Hill that took part as a motor bike on the stage and every thing worked out every time we did it. ~~but~~ the night of the play we almost ~~went~~ ~~ed~~ the stage. And when I think about it now what could have happened. It would have been disastrous. But it added to the effect of the play. It added excitement, especially for the young kids of the audience. but I in the end. (Ha Ha Ha)

Mrs. J: But it was nice, they gave me a gift. And it worked before. And I will always remember that as a fun thing experience. The other extra-curricular activity I took part in was being a cheerleader adviser. For 7th and 8th grade. And I remember when my own girls were involved. I bought uniforms, but I bought gold sweaters and I ironed on their names and in the teams called the 'Nats' at that time. And some patters, stripes, all had sweaters, and we dug up blue shirts. And now that I look back at their pictures they looked really ~~as~~ cute. they did real well. and now the school gets them for them. Um, then I think for 1 year, I think 7th and 8th, that was here. I don't think I did a good job I didn't have enough participation. For that and I was too strict. I felt like I should have let them be more than selves. It

Me: I guess the first time was the hardest.

Mrs. J: It was the hardest, I enjoyed it.

Me: Did you receive any special training for your job?

Mrs. J: Well I went full time for college. And I had to go to the summer job. to get the library science and that took extra time because I have a degree in speech & I have a ~~special~~ major is secondary english and a minor in speech. and another minor in library science and. and then to get my middle school endorsement. so I'm able to teach from 6-12 plus. I can be a librarian for both libraries. and a high school library.

Me: Can you describe what your coworkers are like? How do you feel about them.

Mrs. J: I could say a lot about this. but, I feel like were one big family here.

Mrs. J: And there isn't a one of them that I wouldn't do any thing for and wouldn't do for any one else. Is you did ever need help they'll help you. And they'll do their best to do it for you. Of course when my mother died, I came to school to get ready for my sub and they did everything for me already. They helped my sub in every way possible. They would do that for anyone. They are just wonderful, wonderful people, and that's what makes this job so exceptional.

Me: Nice people to work with.

Mrs. J: Yes.

Me: Umh. At any time did you feel like changing careers.

Mrs. J: I was so happy that I went to school to get this career I had a lot of back ground. For this you know I didn't start going to college until I was 34. So when I got out of high school I learned to be a telephone operator. and I was the operator until the Michigan Bell changed to dial tone and they no longer needed operators. I also worked in a small store before that. I was a clerk at my dad's The General store in National Mike. I was also a clerk there until I had my first child. And then after my kids were in school I went back to the grocery business. and then I became a part time secretary here. One year and a half time the next. And because of my job here I decided to teach. and 4 years later that I was hired here. So now, when I retire I would like to try other things but not until I'm done with this job here.

Me: Kind of Bored to it?
Bored

Mrs. J: Well I'm not bored to it.

Mrs. J: at first but now I feel like I'm becoming 36
a better teacher. you have to have experience. it could
be born to it but I was. I needed experience. I was
to far removed from my own education. remember
I didn't start school for ever 17 years. with 4
more years. added to that. and thought I think
I was a little behind times. And I believe that
I had gotten better. I have progressed. I like
to think that. And I feel that.

Me: How does the community feel about National Mine
school.

Mrs. J: How does it now?

Me: Yes...

Mrs. J: O.K. Its all the community, has had a delt good about
this school. As far as I can see. you know we started
to get different people coming here. When just
the local kids started coming there was a different
feeling. ~~kind~~ kind of a

Me: Feeling of home?

Mrs. J: Yes. home. You know because everyone knew every
one. But when the community changed. because when
the mines expanded and there was a lot of con
struction going on we got all kinds of different
people coming from all new countries so they had
no loyalty to this school. And neither did
there parents of course. And so the feeling definitely
changed at that point. and things are swinging back
now. Because we don't have an influx of different people
every year now its basically the same families sending
their kids to this school. We've now become a closer
knit school now. For a while there it was very different.
it was almost like a city school where you have strangers.

Mrs. J: coming. And its swinging back and with the P.F.O. (37).
we have a real good feeling for the school.

Me: Could you describe any humorous events that happened
in your career.

Mrs. J: Most recent interesting, was when our school received an
award for being the one of the top 15 schools in the
state of Michigan. And we were giving the award
in Lansing. we made the trip for Lansing the P
Principal, assistant principle, Mrs. Richards, and myself.
And we had had to go in from of the group of all
of the other schools accept the award have our pictures
taken with senators. It was a very very nice event.
Enjoy able, exciting, rewarding event.

Me: Why did you stress so much that you wanted to
go down there?

Mrs. J: We were all asked. All the teachers were asked. but
The reason I wanted to go to was because this have
been my school ~~for~~ since I was 4 years old. And I put
a lot of time and energy in this school. So proud of
this school, with the time and service they thought
I should go.

Me: How did they go about choosing the award?

Mrs. J: Well we had to submit many things that our school
was exemplary in. We had to talk about curricula
policies, things that each teacher did in there
class rooms. things like reading and math. Science
was especially taught. There were special things and right
many, many, pages that we did in the classes. Of the
things our school had that were special.

Mrs. J: Compared to other schools.

Me: Did any of your family members or Relatives get to this school id see what are their jobs.

Mrs. J: Yes starting with my mother who taught for about 3 years. Before she got married. Just going to summer school. And of course my uncle George was the principal here at the school for many many years. Then my sister went to school when she was about thirty and she was already teaching anyway so I had my mother, my uncle, my sister, and myself. And of course Randy is here he's my nephew, he's my brother's youngest boy.

Me: That's quite a tradition. How has the building itself changed over the years. Now this is the part that I wanted to get because when I was here in kindergarten in '80 or '81 and I don't know if that's before or after the fire.

Mrs. J: Well that whole elementary wing had been added. With five rooms plus the two bathrooms. Added to the original building. ~~When was~~

Me: When were those added? Do you know?

Mrs. J: We'll find out, we'll get that later. And it's been a few years. But what is remarkable is that the biggest change was that they covered up the auditorium. We had an auditorium seating approximately 300 people. And you know comfortable auditorium seats.

Me: You mean like the Ishpeming's?

Mrs. J: Yes.

Me: Why did they do that?

Mrs. T: The cafeteria is now covering that. Plus the band room. And then were the gymnasium begins is were the stage was. Approximately at the stage crossed in the auditorium. And when the people came for the basketball games. And we would have back drops. Velvet back drops until we got the new ones 25 years ago for the 50th reunion of this school. To separate the stage from the gym. And they could be ~~are~~ drawn and be pulled up. so that's there was no interference for the games. So they wouldn't want anything for the games. so that's the big one and we had a projection room so we could show movies. like they did at a theater. And I can just picture it in my mind. And I hope we have pictures to show at our reunion. What it was like for the kids who never really here at the time for the auditorium. Oh and the windows have been changed. That was a big change and there was all kinds of windows. at the end of the stairs and halls. And we were losing a lot of energy out so we put these in. which are very nice they see money and they look nice but you don't see the scenery. at side the window the changes and when the lights go out the hall lights go out the hall is dark. We also had a sky light right here in the second floor right in the middle of the hall way.

Me: That opened up to the bare sky? I always thought that was an attic.

Mrs. T: No that's a regular sky light. a very heavy type of corrugated glass. ~~for~~ the attic is in other places ~~but~~ that was a sky light.

Mrs. J: And before we even had lockers there were (40)
no lockers when I was going to school. All we
had were coat hangers in the middle of the
second floor hall along the double coat hangers.
Through K-12 there were approximately 152 probably
a hundred and 172 students. all the time I was in
school think of it I had 11 but the other schools
were 15 each. So we never had more than 175 kids
in this school. during those year of fifty
forty and so on. until the construction time
came and then we had a lot of people.

Me: Did any special events happen when the stage
was here cause I was wondering, I used to see the
Choir Boys in I think.

Mrs. J: Did any incoming people stop.

Me: I don't mean like special suits. not just special
people in general. Any thing special.

Mrs. J: I'll think about that. I don't think. but our plays
were so famous. people came from the community.

Me: When Mrs. Gleason had our X-mas opera. people
waited in line out in the cold for the doors to
open. And the gym filled immediately. She also
had a special exhibit we had a play voter exhibit.
at the opera but each class took part. And
every teacher read papers and covered the walls of
the room to show the parents that their school
which was the best things. Every Room was open
that teachers would sit there to greet the parents.
we would go from room to room after the
programs and the next day we would have all
these papers to take up at night. He or she
always kept those special papers for the end of the
year.

Mrs. J: So that was very nice we enjoyed that a lot. (41)

Me: Have you maintained contact with former students or co-workers?

Mrs. J: Most of the people I have started with are still here. My classmates are still around and I told you about the reunion I had. Um... And the teachers place I took Mrs. May when I worked with her at different times. But when I see all of the old teachers I had as a student, that's special. But I can't think of any teacher that has retired from National Mine. That I see on a regular basis. Well certainly we have some comrades that were class happy to see National Mine people are proud of each other and their community. The first class I was advisor for. That was my first year teaching and that was the last class that graduated. And being the advisor for that last grad class was special. The President of that class when I now have as students has named her advisor for her class. That's kind of special. I have special students that when I see them, I remember more than others.

Me: Have any of your former students done anything good?

Mrs. J: I'm sure they did. As I told you about the girl who rights for the Heubster Coquette

Me: I & you had to do it all over again would you do it why or why not?

Mrs. J: If I had to do it all over again I would start earlier.

Me: You wouldn't have gone into anything else?

Mrs. J: I'm sure I would have liked to try anything else but I can't imagine it as being as rewarding as what or being able to get a job in the school untrained. I & I had been a journalist with interest me. And the job market is not as good for a journalist as much as a ~~teacher~~ teacher. And to teach in the school (where I went to school) is special. I can't think of any other job I would rather have. But I would have started earlier. I wish I had gone to college as soon as I graduated high school. And a... stop to have my family and then go back. Then I would have more experience. than when I was younger. it would have been easier. Going to school at 34 and there was a time when I had 2 or 3 children and an exchange student, so I had six children to take care of plus a husband and a house to run. Going full time schooling was a hard job. And as excited as I was it was physically wearing. So by the time I finished my 4 years I was glad to have finished and start teaching. but I don't even regret it. I'm thankful I'm starting when I did. And I guess it is good that I started late because things might have been different. So I don't regret it. at all the way I did it. because you stay all these years because I want home to spend time with my kids.

Mrs. J

Me: After being out of college and those 4 years did it ever slow down?

Mrs. T: Better I + never slowed down. Because I got into teaching with 3 majors & pretenses then one was in 7th one in 8th and 9th. So any one who has three teenagers knows how hectic it is without working. And how I was just beginning my career with most a lot of hours of preparation. When you just starting as a teacher you can't experience you put even more time into it. It must stopped and it hasn't stopped yet.

(43)

Ma: Do you like having it that hectic. or?

Mrs. T: I think I said on it. I enjoy quiet time that's why I need my summers. I physically and mentally need the time off. So I hadn't done it except once when I had to send students over to the high schools and that's when I was starting out. so that was fine. And I'm older now so I really need that time off. I enjoy every minute of it as I do on. So my life is so busy with 5 grandchildren, a husband, 3 children, a huge yard, a cottage and we love to boat & fish. I love to read & travel. Eastern vacation is spent on a trip which we travel spend planning for many many months. ~~For~~ One year we climbed the Rockies. the next we spent the night in a foreign station. We see resort parks. which is some thing to anticipate during the long winter. we have fun planning it and a wonderful time doing it.

Ma: I don't want you to take this the way you want but... most people your age... I don't want to insult you...

Mrs. T: Say it!

Ma: Most people your age are a little slower does this take full on your self.

Mrs. J: I'm sure it has. but the exercise thing or aches.
 As long as I get my nightly rest I'll be fine.
 And I suppose I will eventually slow down I feel
 my back get stiffer as I sit longer and
 get up. but all of these things will make me
 live longer. my life is so full I figure when
 I can't do it I won't do it but as long as
 I can I will. (Ha Ha Ha)

Mr: (Ha Ha) That's pretty good philosophy. What
 are the greater challenges you have faced.

Mrs. J: My first ~~the~~ biggest challenge of my career
 was deciding to go. Taking the biggest choice
 of my life I thought it was. And it was
 And the first few days I questioned my
 sanity in going to go into a class room. In 1969
 when I started there. what many older people going to
 college. And when I finished in '73 there were
 many. I met many more. but I just sat with
 for a while, I didn't feel very confident. My
 first test in one of my science classes passed
 I had a C in I thought I was lucky to get
 O.C. so that was the first time I knew I had
 to apply myself. Because after 17 years of
 school and not applying myself as much. I got
 by a doing as little work as possible. My stud-
 habits were not good and I was lucky
 to get the grades. I did. I guess I liked learn-
 but I didn't like studying. I got to college
 after 17 years of being out I didn't know
 how to study. But my first C taught me
 that it's time to change my study habits. And I
 did & that really helped me. that wasn't a failure
 but to me it was. And you learn by the mistakes.

Mrs. J: And at the end of the day year I had a 4 pointer. Straight A's.

Me: Now that you had ~~a~~ teaching career. any thing in teaching?

Mrs. J: Yes. Everyday is a challenge. beginning teaching a 5th grade class I was lucky to think I had enough training. And when you are starting out you do the best you can. With what you had but just coming doesn't prepare you. You need, each year helps add to you being a pattern teacher. All to day. I have a challenge with behavior problems, teaching english so that my students understand well. And when my students classes don't go well, because ~~my classes don't~~ I didn't prevent it well, the lesson I constantly change it. I evaluate myself every single day while I'm at teaching, I think about my day I think where I've done a bad job & good job. And if I should change what I teach the lesson over again. Or if I had a run in with a student how I could have prevented it. And I try to avoid it, and I'm learning that. That not letting my anger show, or not getting angry. For misbehaving has been, That's a big challenge for me. It is my nature to jump at you know to get angry fast. I have a ~~Temper~~ a temper. and all of my teaching career that has been a hindrance to me. and I'm finally mellowing and had I changed sooner. by not letting that get to me. I would have had a much happier career. It's been good but I could have avoided many confrontations.

Mrs. J: with students which wouldn't have to happen and I regret that, I regret that. I hope kids have never felt bad. ~~that's that~~ they've held it over my head. Because I go there and I feel very good ~~from~~ about that student. the next day, I've never felt like I've pulled any one out. I hope I haven't any way. I never meant to. that bothers me. Some student might think I have a grudge against them and I never have. so what bothers me the most is when kids don't apply or too lazy to learn. and don't apply themselves. but I have to be very tolerant with them because when I put my self in their shoes. And I was probably one of those same kind of people. And that's what helped me too.

Me: What is some of the rewarding parts.

Mrs. J: Test one. There are so many. When I go home after a good day and I've had a lot of sch. And I think the kids enjoyed my class. When I tell a story a wonderful, wonderful story. and the kids are excited and the kids help me tell it. they clap. that's rewarding. and if they don't clap it's rewarding and if I've done a good job and the good, and if I have a new technique for teaching a class. It works well, I have the school building very up. And I tell my husband about it. Each day is a reward. When I helped a student learn. When you see a student say that you were a very successful teacher and helped me learn ~~with~~ grammar.

Me: What are your biggest responsibilities is a big part of your job.

Mrs. J: Well maintaining two libraries is a huge responsibility. I have a budget to work with (47). I have to make sure I don't go over-spend. The fact that I'm using tax payer's money is a real responsibility, cause I don't want to be but anything that is spending their money unwise. So this is something I've learned through the years. I will never order anything I think we won't have any use for. I have to know we really need each item, and so I spend the budget on non-fiction, and high hard cover reference books. And things that the kids need as reinforcement material for their classes. The Elementary, as well as the middle school. And then I use money from the two book fairs for several years each is a little bit in used for schools that have 1. And I take that money and spend it on fun stuff. Paperbacks which are leisure. I think our libraries have more fun leisure time books and that's what brings kids to our libraries. And it keeps growing. Our selection gets better and better, and we get more readers for more reading. I see paperbacks in all the students' hands it's good. Because they look at them in class when they're done with their home work. And think we have a real client list of that. I hope I helped

Mr: Any others besides the libraries?

Mrs. J: O.K. My others are just as important, challenging. I have the responsibility of teaching 7th graders how to speak, how to write and speak, think creatively and prepare them for things like, with some kinds of communication. So think of the responsibilities of that. I what I do is shape what they learned in 6th grade and help them carry it over into 8th grade.

Me: Which are the hardest to teach 7th or 8th?
well I taught 5th and 7th, I really enjoy 6th so (48)
7 years. A change from 7 to 6 was kind of traumatic
at the point. I wasn't still resisting change, I was
doing a good job and a teacher gets so many things done
That was the wrong way to think. You cannot resist change
when you are able to make changes that makes you a better
person. And I learned that lesson Mr. Buesing helped
me learn that. He is the person who talked to me
and the one who told me that I was moving. That I
could do it he gave me inspiration. And he said you
will find that you will enjoy 6th grade, and
I just love it. He was right.

Me: Is it because they are a little bit more cooperative?

Mrs. J: Yes. They are very much better to motivate. 7th
Graders are still, you can get them motivated
but as early because there older and they
present more of a challenge in before or and more
defiant. They develop some habits that is not
good. But I prefer 6th or 7th to 8th.

Me: Did you ever win any special awards? or recog-
nized for your teaching?

Mrs. J: Our school has but not more personally. I did grad
sup. Northern and have my some award
And then I got my master, it's not an award
but it's a reward so now I got that at the age
of 48.

Me: Because of the change - time you put into it.

Mrs. J: Yea. At that age I lost weight getting my master.
I was the thinnest I was in my whole life.
Because when you getting your master you are
working. summer school time to get the classes. And
when you doing a paper with all kinds of research.
that's demanding. It's very tough, very tough.

Me: What are your fondest memories of National Mike.

(19)

Mrs. J.: Probably when I was a student ~~was~~ was being a student-teacher and all of that. Umm... taking part in things like cheerleading and my friends. My school & teachers. All wonderful people. And now I've such fond memories of all the people I teach with there all wonderful people. I miss my job a lot. I'm gonna say I wish I have to come. I enjoy my time off. If there is a snow day I say wonderful! I have so much to do at home it gives me a break. Coming to school in the morning is not any thing I dread doing even. I love coming to school and doing there is ~~so~~ so much to do. I just can't wait to get some of this work done it's enjoyable to do.

Me: Where are we? I wish I had that 15 min of time.

Mrs. J.: Is that it? Are we done?

Me: Is there anything you wish to add?

Mrs. J.: I don't think I mentioned Mr. Burrins as being the one ~~who~~ who pushed. All right he is my friend. And he became my friend even before I started teaching. I was his secretary. And we became friends then. And he was very inspirational as telling me to come one of the people that decided to help me come to be a teacher. to go to school to be a teacher. And then after I became a teacher under his leadership there was not any thing we could not talk about together. He was my friend as well as my boss. And we still maintained that kind of ~~mutual~~ mutual relationships. See each other that I could go and talk to him about any problem. in class. And when he changed my schedule

Mrs. J: He said without pass. ~~that~~ You can do it! (50)
You can do it! Don't worry about it! and he
he picked me up. And I was sad about that and
I didn't want this to happen. And he helped me.
I'm though I enjoy Mrs. Hunkeler. And we are
good friends too. And the first semester there
was kind of a cold. I still miss him. I don't
miss him daily but there was a time when I did.
And I guess I have to contribute what I can
to him because I do. He helped me along the
way.

Me: I guess that's about it.

Mrs. J: I said that would do.

Me: I thank you for letting me interview you

Mrs. J: Yes.