

Jaime Magnusen's interview  
with Leonard Magnusen

me: When were you born?

Grandpa: On January 2, 1930.

me: Where were you born?

Grandpa: Ishpeming.

me: Did you have any brothers or sisters?

Grandpa: Yes,

me: How many?

Grandpa: I had two sisters.

me: What were their names?

Grandpa: Marilyn and Terrain and one  
sister that died when she was  
a baby. Her name was Ruth.

Me: what were your parents names?

Grandpa: mother's name was Edla Matilda Danielson and dad's name was Carl Albert Magnusen.

Me: where were your parents born?

Grandpa: ah, Edla was born in Ishpeming and  
Dad was born in Winthrop.

Me: when were they born?

Grandpa: Edla was born Dec. - December 17,  
1905 and dad was born February  
the 25, 1897.

Me: what did they do for a living?

Grandpa: Dad was a carpenter and  
mother was a seamstress in  
the Gossard Company.

Me: what country did your family  
come from?

Grandpa: Sweden

Me: when did your family come to

(continued from page two) America?

Grandpa: I really don't know.

me: Why did they choose to come to the U.P.?

Grandpa: Because it was alot like their old country.

me: Did you have any children?

Grandpa: Yes, I had five children.

me: What were their names?

Grandpa: One died, first Gary died when he was 21, then there was David, Steven, Keith, and Barbara.

me: What were schools like when you were younger?

Grandpa: <sup>I think,</sup> The classes were bigger, some rooms had 3 grades and one teacher.

me! What school did you attend?

Grandpa! National Mine.

me! Did you like the teachers?

Grandpa! Yes.

me! About how many students were in your class?

Grandpa! From 15 to 20.

me! How long was your school day?

Grandpa! From 9~~AM~~ to 4.

me! Did you have a lunch hour?

Grandpa! Yes.

me! How long was it?

Grandpa! It was one hour but we walked home for lunch and walked back again.

Me: Did you have a lot of homework?

Grandpa: Yes.

Me: Who was your principal?

Grandpa: George Annala.

Me: Was your teacher very strict?

Grandpa: Yes they were, they used the ruler the ruler once in a while.

Me: How did you get to school?

Grandpa: Ahh, walked.

Me: What was your favorite subject?

Grandpa: Manual Arts.

Me: How much schooling did you have?

Grandpa: 12 years

Me: Do you remember any funny or <sup>amusing</sup> stories that happened at school?

Grandpa: I think the most amusing ~~story~~ one was when I was George Washington

Grandpa: (continued) and Rosm-Rosmary Hart  
or Clark was Martha.

Me: Did you have a job before you  
were an adult?

Grandpa: Yes, I worked at Consolidated  
Lumber Company.

Me: What was your first job after  
getting out of school?

Grandpa: Labor on construction.

Me: When did you get your job  
working at the school?

Grandpa: 1960.

Me: What sort of jobs did you do around  
the school?

Grandpa: Drove bus, janitor work, and snow-plowing

Me: what was the pay like?

Grandpa: About \$4,000 a year.

Me: About how many hours long was an average work day?

Grandpa: Probably about 10 hours and when the weather was <sup>real</sup> cold we would sleep right through the night at there in order to keep the boilers going.

Me: About what time did you <sup>have to</sup> go to work?

Grandpa: Normally about 5 a.m.

Me: Why did you change jobs?

Grandpa: Had a big family, needed more pay.

Me: Do you have any memorable experiences while you were working in the school?

Grandpa: I guess all of my experiences that were memorable was all the good people that I worked with up there.

Me: What is the most memorable experience that has happened in your life?

Grandpa: I would say the most memorable things in my life would be the traveling we did. The one in particular going to ~~the Hawaiian~~ Hawaii and visiting Pearl Harbor.