

Leah Lampi's Interview

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with

Tom Prophet

me: I'm Leah Lampi and I am interviewing Tom prophet on Dec. 16, 1998, He's an ex student at ^{the} National mine school and he lives in Hamlet, Michigan

me: when and where were you born?

Mr. T: when and where?

me: Haha ya

Mr. T: July 23, 1939

me: ^{ok} How many brothers and sisters did you have?

Mr. T: 3 sisters

me: um when and whom did you marry?

Mr. T: ~~Margee Ann~~ Marjorie Ann Kulju, Oct. 13 1963

me: um ^{how} many children do you have

Mr. T: 3

me: ~~There names?~~ whats there names?

Mr. T: James, John, and Jeffery

me: um when and where were your parents born?

Mr. T: um my mother (I think) was born in Ishpeming my father was Ishpeming

me: ~~ok~~ their names ^{Mr. T} Julia and Thomas Prophet ^{me:} ~~ok~~ um

and whats years did you attend National mine school?

Mr. T: um 1946 to 1957 I believe or 45 or 49 (Haha) I ~~don't~~ can't remember, one of the two

me: Do you remember some of your grade school teachers

Mr. T: Yap!

me: What were they like ^{and} names?

Mr. T: Mrs. Reid was a kindergarden teacher and she was a music teacher and Mrs. Mutt

me: What were they like

Mr. T: you want the names?

me: It doesn't ~~matter~~ matter, what were they like to mean!

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Mr.T: No there were pretty good teachers, I was probably the problem (HaHaHaHa)

me: (HaHaHa) ok Do you remember any humorous or interesting stories about them.

Mr.T: um not really ^{a little bit more relevant} Just what I mean when I was in 5th grade we got Mr. Johnson, Williamki, _____
(Ha Ha Ha)

me: (HaHaHa)

Mr.T: I remember

me: (HaHa)

little brother: BOOOO!

me: AH that scared me!
Ha

Do you remember um some of your junior or high school teachers and what they were like?

Mr.T: yea I remember just about all of them they were all pretty good teachers

me: Did you like them?

Mr.T: yea, well no there's ~~one~~ grade it was 7th grade

me: what was she like?

Mr.T: I remember about the time I ~~just~~ ^{never} liked her
Ha maybe I was the problem (HaHaHa)

me: (HaHa) ya:

Mr.T: I never use to like her, I ~~was~~ ^{suppose} cause she took my water pistol away from me.

me: (HaHa) Do you remember her name

Mr.T: Ms. Rantala

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me: Um, Do you remember any humorous or interesting stories about some of them?

Mr. T: um: in high or junior high maybe, I remember in ~~chemistry~~ chemistry class in high school ~~our~~ teacher uses to ~~primes~~ ~~as~~ in chemistry class we had a bad habit ~~of~~ of mixing chemicals together

me: (hahaha)

Mr. T: when we weren't suppose to ~~we~~ get in ~~trouble~~ trouble

me: Did you get any punishments for them?

Mr. T: pardon

me: Did you get any punishments ^{Mr. T: High school or junior} or not?

Mr. T: ^{um} probably, not too seriously?

me: How did you get to school and how ^{chemicals together} was it?

Mr. T: well! we ~~we~~ ~~rode~~ ~~the~~ ~~bus~~ ~~on~~ ^{what that} ~~Auto Anderson's bus~~ ^{um:} ~~probably~~ 6 miles ~~are~~ ~~something~~ ~~we~~ ~~used~~ ~~to~~ ~~go~~ ~~to~~ ~~school~~ ^{first before} have a little 15 ~~passenger~~ ~~junior~~ school bus we got a bigger one later one really big so everyone fits

me: (Ha) what was your favorite subject?

Mr. T: Gym, ~~the~~

me: Ha Ha, why?

Mr. T: ^{Ha} Show probably was I didn't have to study to hard we could just do something ^{was a good subject} Ha I didn't have to study and it

me: Oh um what was your most difficult subject?

Mr. T: oh English probably.

me: why?

Mr. T: never studied didn't like it

me: Did you like the teacher?

Mr. T: ohh: not really

me: Ha, um what kind of exact activities were overed?

Mr. T: Just some things, we had basketball, those kind you mean.

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me: huh:

Mr. T: that probably all!

me: which ~~ones~~ ones were you involved in? or weren't you involved

Mr. T: ^{in city.} Basketball.

me: Do you remember any special things that happened?

Mr. T: um) not really just that I got kicked off the
basketball team. ~~later~~ later

me: (Ha Ha Ha) Didn't you ~~ask~~ ask

Mr. T: huh

me: Didn't you ask to go _____

Mr. T: no

me: still got kicked off

Mr. T: yea

me: Ha, oh funny

Mr. T: he not really

me: Did the team win any trophies or championships?

Mr. T: no! but we sure came close one year _____

me: um how did the team travel and how far did they
go. if they went any ~~to~~ where

Mr. T: um the farrest

me: wow!

Mr. T:

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me: You must of had a good team?

Mr.T: yea

me: Ha! ^{and} Did you have any special cheerleaders like the cheer-
leaders had

Mr.T: no, I wasn't ^{interested} in them then.

me: ^{How} were kids expect to Act or Behave?

Mr.T: ~~oh~~ we were disappelen and pretty good, when we ~~were~~
werent suppose to be monkeying around you were suppose to
do you studys and they were always ~~those rough notes~~
~~we had when we~~ those rough notes we had when we

me: ~~oh~~ just started school some boys were smoking
and the teacher name was ~~Ther~~ Magnusson
miss mason she got married and was Mrs
Magnusson and I remember that one boy
hollering to her that "hey mason, ^{Jar} where the
coupling"

me - Ha Ha

Mr.T: I was only in first grade but I remember
so there were some of the boys that were ^{pretty}
rough ^{that} we ^{and in 3rd grade}
16 years old ~~which did crazy stuff~~

me: they were 16 years old and they were in 3rd grade

Mr.T: Ha Ha

me: Oh my goodness Ha Ha
what punishments were given?

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Mr.T: Oh you said about getting disappen active I was, during the lunch line I made a hangman's loop and the creation by putting string around ^{the girls} neck and the teacher caught me and made me eat ^{carry} bag lunch for 3 ~~days~~ days.

me: Ha ha

Mr.T: so if you goofed off in the lunch room ^{you would have} ~~to~~ carry bag lunch instead of taking the school lunch ~~program~~ program or some times you were expelled or sometimes you had to ~~stand~~ stand in the hall

me: hein um!

Mr.T: sometimes an exact hour after school, depends on what it is

me: you! Did you get lot of punishments?

Mr.T: not too serious ones but I got a few, I got a good hair pulling, and slapped in the face

me: Ha my goodness, How did kids dress? Were ~~there~~ they dress codes or?

Mr.T: Not really, ~~we~~ we wear jeans all the time

me: nothing ~~special~~ special

Mr.T: no

me: okay

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me: um, did there have any special sayings or styles or any thing?

mr. t: styles?

me: yea

mr. t: oh, the girls always wear dresses and they had those black and white shoes, the boys I don't know they just, that there were the days of the jeans and the first numbers or

me: yea

mr. t: least they were wearing those, I remember when I was in, high school years some of the kids got caught up with ~~the~~ Elvis Presley hair ~~and~~ does and that

me: Ha Ha Ha um what was lunch time like?

mr. t: whitesnaw and ~~the~~ snowball battles we got caught if you got caught, we were usually outside we played sports or basketball or baseball

me: ~~the~~ hum ~~the~~

mr. t: basketball, baseball in the season

me: yea um! Was hot lunch good?

mr. t: "yea" esaupe ~~the~~ ~~peas~~ fried peas

me: Ha what you eat

mr. t: we had macaroni and cheese all the time

me: so you got pretty sick of it

mr. t: yea

Mr. T: I didn't like macaron and cheese and ~~stir~~ didn't

me: Ha, um where did you eat

Mr. T: where?

me: Yeah Hallroom

Mr. T: no lunch room we had a separate lunch room

me: Yeah

Mr. T: ~~we~~ we used to come ~~to~~ high school days we used to come down the ~~stair~~ steps, in earlier years we carried our lunch before they had hot lunch program.

me: yeah

Mr. T: and that when we were up stairs we came down the stairs single file line, and in the lunchroom we pass and ~~get~~ food on our tray ~~and~~ ~~we~~ ~~get~~ ~~it~~ ^{picked up your milk} out and sit in the lunch room and ate it

me: yeah!

Mr. T: I was always trying to get ~~parties~~

me: Ha. What kind of plays or programs did they have?

Mr. T: um ^{I remember when they used to have a} Christmas program early in the years in grade school or preschool I can't remember, and when I think the seniors always had a play but I was never in it. I was in it, but I got kicked out

me: Ha why?

Mr. T: ^{Ha} cause I didn't show up, for practice!

me: strike teachers?

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Mr. T: or else ~~one of the two~~ had student
one of the two

me: yea ha

Mr. T: ha ha

me: um did you participate in any

Mr. T: in grade school we did once

me: yea um did you remember any humorous
or interesting stories about them

Mr. T: no, not really, just that

ha ha

me: um, did the school have any special picnic or
outings

Mr. T: no really not that I can remember - when we were
in school in biology class we used to have
one cutting day we'd go out on a field trip we'd
go different places and do different things

me: yea

Mr. T: I can't remember traveling anywhere!

me: um who was your principle and describe him or her?

Mr. T: in high school.

me: either

Mr. T: well in grade school the principle was George Annala,
we'd call him the strike some call, then after him came
Kenneth Umbreck, he was pretty good then, he was strike but
not as strike as George Annala

me: how strike was George?

Mr. T. Well George Annala was a ~~kind~~ type (10)
of guy if ~~was~~ misbehaved you
were punished usually, He wouldn't give you
a second chance

me: Ha um did you have any teachers, wait did any teachers
have any impact on your life

Mr. T. Impact

me: yes

Mr. T. hum

or

not that I can think

me: describe your graduation ceremony?

Mr. T. Well it was kind of ~~like~~ hunchen, that I didn't almost
make it I was the day we were graduating from high
school and a and I was in ~~the~~ morning graduation
at night then from copper county Alfred ~~Costi~~? Came down
on a truck copper county dairy truck ~~to~~ before the
graduation and ~~for~~ ~~my~~ ~~see~~ he called me up and said
he was in Ashpening, and so I got out of bed ~~got~~
dressed and I went down there to pick him up and
he was going to help a ~~man~~ man from the copper county ~~area~~
to unload the truck for the ride down, and was on 2nd
street just off the side of door where they were unloading
it I was standing there talking to him leaning against
the ~~side~~ side door the man walked pass me ~~and~~ ~~grabbed~~ ~~me~~ ~~and~~ ~~said~~
truck was only a couple feet away I heard the truck
(me: yeah) ~~street~~ up I just stand there talking and a my friend
~~and~~ ~~and~~ "look out" and the man was parking
navigated the truck ~~and~~ ~~was~~ ~~standing~~
and he smacked me against the building

me: (ohhh!)

Mr. T. and I busted the plywood door and when the truck
~~door~~ hit me and the truck hit ~~I~~ ~~fell~~ on the ground
and I got up and walked ~~and~~ ~~to~~ ~~ok~~ ~~actos~~ I could barely walk
and a ~~few~~ I was sore and was all striped up so
I looked like an ~~and~~ I walked back to the car and
drove over to the hospital and nothing was broke but had
a difficult time walking and I ~~remember~~ had a bad stomachache
but I was only 13 student in the class.

me: you 18 that graduated
wow,

um Do you remember any special memories of
your grandfina!

mr. T: Well I was just happy to get a diploma that
all, But as far as grandfina ^{I think one time} we drove to Green
Bay when to a couple stores and drove back and stripped ~~down~~
home that one day.

me: yea

mr. T: that as far as the grandfina ceremony, nothing really special

me: yea

mr. T: just

me: yea, um where do, where you able to maintain contact
with childhood friends?

mr. T: Well most of the kids I just graduated with is what
you meaning, or ~~is~~ other wise

me: yea

mr. T: graduated with I ~~seem~~ ^{of them a few} a few times but other wise that all
~~not that much~~ ^{I remember} not that much ^{communication} just the
mes you see ~~regularly~~ regularly

me: Did you have any best friends?

mr. T: Not really all that when we were younger we
used to be good friends but ~~good boy?~~ and in lower mich.
and for the first time I saw him in sp. for the
first time in many years.

me: wow, Did he remember you

mr. T: oh yea

me: um

mr. T: I remember keeping contact with him! after school

me: um what are your fondest memories of Natinal mine school?

mr. T: fondest memories, just a lot of fun, ha I never ~~could~~ did like
school work it was always a drag, I thought I never live
lay caught to graduate it seem like ~~it was dragging so~~
slow but otherwise in that that's all

me: um what are the biggest changes in the schools today?

mr.T: the biggest what?

me: the biggest changes

mr.T: well I think there not as striked, they get music playing in schools never did have before and that in small schools you know now everyone and in big schools you got more problems more schools, but you got very few ~~of~~ subjects to check from

me: yea

mr.T: but know does you got more subjects to check from probably much easier, I would probably load up heavy with shop classes so then I would get in to?

me: yea

mr.T: But know kids got a better oppertunestey in subjects that are better for college.

me: yea, um if you have a message for the ~~set~~ students what would it be?

mr.T: well I never ~~studied~~ studied and I told my ~~children~~ children that if there smart they would do there homework and learn as much as they can.

me: ha ha ha

Tom: know does you all most have to have an education to can find and to get a decent job, years ago there was a high school education that's all

me: Do you have any thing ~~else~~ else add?

mr.T: NO really, just in discreding to see some of these young people don't have respect elders, that's one thing, I ~~see~~

me: yea that trouble doing

mr.T: no I no that I growed over but now I see that you have to respect some maybe some things more big families years ago, it was

me: yea people were poorer than days I would just like to see some

Mr. T: to see another generation to be more
reasonable,

(13)

me: yea right in the middle of something

Tom: it was a little bit but got to get rid of it?
and even had small schools you almost knew who did it
all the time

hu: yea ~~accept~~ (Thank you)