

SCHEDLER HONORS COLLEGE  
ORAL HISTORY PROJECT

The Reminiscence of  
Judi Alstatt

University of Central Arkansas

2022

## **PREFACE**

Date of Interview: 03/10/2022

Location of Interview: Remote Interview - Zoom Recording

Acronyms:

AR = Avery Rudolph

JA = Judi Alstatt

UCA = University of Central Arkansas

### Interview Summary

The following oral history is the result of a recorded interview with Judi Alstatt conducted by Avery Rudolph on March 10th, 2022. This interview is part of the Schedler Honors College Oral History Project. Readers are asked to bear in mind that they are reading a transcript of the spoken word, rather than written prose. The following transcript has been reviewed, edited, and approved by the narrator.

**AR** [00:00:02] This meeting is being recorded. OK, awesome. This is Avery Rudolph with the Schedler Honors College Oral History project. Today is March 10th, 2022 and I'm interviewing Judi Alstatt today through Zoom. We will be talking about her experience leading up to and during her time here at the Honors College, and please go ahead and state your name for the recording.

**JA** [00:00:24] Judi Alstatt.

**AR** [00:00:27] Awesome. Welcome, Judy. I just want to thank you for being here today and having this conversation with me. First, we'll begin kind of with a speed round of questions, and all it just requires is either one word or a short sentence response; and whatever first comes to your mind you can say loud and this is just remove any jitters either of us have; and lay down a quick framework of facts. Sound good for you?

**JA** [00:00:50] Sounds great.

**AR** [00:00:52] All right. Okay, can you tell me where you were born?

**JA** [00:00:56] San Antonio, Texas.

[inaudible mumbling]

**AR** [00:01:01] And what is your mother's name?

**JA** [00:01:04] Viola Alstatt. Her maiden name is Wolfso.

**AR** [00:01:11] What was her maiden name?

**JA** [00:01:12] Her maiden name is Viola Clara Wolfso. Very good German *Wolfso* kind of thing, I can't do it.

**AR** [00:01:26] Indeed. Do how her family immigrated here to the states from Germany?

**JA** [00:01:30] They came in through Galveston, through the port. We were in a German family that came in through the Port of Galveston and they went to San Antonio area, and one of my grandmothers was born on the banks of this Little Creek down there, and then my grandpa only read and wrote in German. My mom's dad didn't read and write in English. They lived in brothels at that point.

**AR** [00:02:00] Wow. Do you have any of those letters or things that he wrote just purely in German?

**JA** [00:02:05] No, but he volunteered in World War II, even though he's too old. He was in a tank battalion. He volunteered. He was a German speaker in that group. He got blown out of several tanks and had to hide in some very, , pretty cool stories.

**AR** [00:02:19] Definitely sounds like that. And what did your mother, Viola do for a living?

**JA** [00:02:25] She was a housewife for many years, which was the norm, right? But her and my dad both wanted to go to college and didn't. They could have, but they couldn't in those days, there's a lot of back story to that, but they were thrilled when we went to college, right? And my mom started work at Walmart. Real fun story there. My dad worked for Arkansas Power and Light, and my mom was a stay at home mom, right? And my older sister was at Arkansas Tech, and she decided she would sneak into town and get a part time job during the day and help pay for the college, and the first first day she was there, the building caught on fire and the first response was my dad.

**AR** [00:03:20] Wow, and did your mother enjoy going to work after having been at home and tending to family?

**JA** [00:03:25] She did. Oh, it's nice.

**AR** [00:29:59] What was it like working?

**JA** [00:03:30] Huh?

**AR** [00:03:31] What was her job or role there?

**JA** [00:03:33] She just started - she could tell you, but she just started as a clerk and she ended up being the assistant manager of a super center and she retired from that.

**AR** [00:03:45] And has your father always worked for the Arkansas Power and Light Company?

**JA** [00:03:49] I think he started in San Antonio. I lived there. We moved here in 1970. He did, I think, a few other jobs when they were first married, like construction and stuff. And then he got on with the electric company in San Antonio, called City Public Service Board, and he worked his way up through that and became a journeyman lineman, which is a cool thing. And he did trouble work. He would ride the big roads in San Antonio when they decided they wanted to live back up here, which my mom and you're right, my dad just remembered as being, we'll have enough in this area. And they found the farm and they moved us up here in 1970, and he was a lineman here until he retired. But he was also a farmer at the same time and my mom still lives on the farm. I'm still here. That's the farm out that window, but I had to pull the shade because otherwise it was too bright.

[laughter]

**AR** [00:04:54] And what kind of farm do you guys live on?

**JA** [00:04:57] Dad always had cattle, beef cattle.

**AR** [00:05:02] That's a lot of responsibility tending to cattle, is it for meat products or is it dairy?

**JA** [00:05:09] No, our neighbors growing up, our neighbors did dairy, but we always had beef. Then we had a big, big garden. One we had a whole acre of potatoes that was bigger, we had fruit. We had two acres of fruit and we all raised chickens and hogs and had horses. And each one of us had like - we always got up in the morning and did our farm chores, and then we rode the bus for like an hour to high school. And we rode the bus like an hour home and we did our chores. We did school and church. That was it.

**AR** [00:05:48] Oh, it sounds like an incredibly long ride back and forth for school and then going home to work.

**JA** [00:05:54] When you like to read as much as I can. I read all the books in the library. By the time I was like in the seventh grade - no sixth grade - my sixth grade teacher started going to another town to get me books because librarians that you're not, I can read them all and I was where you were reading them. And I read the 'Little House On The Prairie' series ten times or something else.

**AR** [00:06:19] Is that your favorite?

**JA** [00:06:20] My dad's electricians manual, I read the Progressive Farmer magazine. He got the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers magazine. I read that like, I read everything I could get my hands on. I brought my books home from school just so I could read them. I read everything. It was just like a taxi ride with the book.

**AR** [00:06:43] That sounds like a really neat experience. What is your favorite genre of book?

**JA** [00:06:50] Oh, fiction drama. I just like a really good story, good characters, good - I really don't know.

**AR** [00:07:04] I do too, I also grew up reading 'Little House On The Prairie.' Did you ever watch the TV show that they created?

**JA** [00:07:11] Yes, but they don't even seem like the same thing to me. But I like the TV show and I like the books. They didn't - it didn't seem like the same story, but I liked them both.

**AR** [00:07:22] Yeah, and then if you could describe yourself in one word, what would that be and why?

**JA** [00:07:34] Probably determined. Why? Because I don't remember, even when I want to, I don't.

**AR** [00:07:49] It takes a lot of perseverance I can relate. And now you live in Dallas, Texas, with your family as a musician teacher and I can now

**JA** [00:07:59] I live in Allen, Texas, which is north of Dallas. I live in Allen.

**AR** [00:08:05] Perfect.

[inaudible]

**JA** [00:08:09] Oh, it's OK, go ahead I got some lag, I think.

**AR** [00:08:13] Okay, if you could visually describe the childhood home that you've been talking about being uniform, could you do that as well as talk a little bit about your family dynamic with your siblings like if you were able to get along with them or how your parents were with you guys?

**JA** [00:08:29] Oh, the farmhouse I grew up in was rock and it was quarried near our house. All the wood in the house had been cut off the land and it was just planks of walnut. Just everything was trimmed in big chunks of walnut, which now probably worth a lot of money. I had a basement. It had a place - a cistern in the basement that came off the ease and everything that water from the



cistern went into holders where you put the cans built to keep them cold. We didn't keep our milk cold. We had a smokehouse next to the basement and we have a cellar inside of the basement. We kept all the canned foods that we can't - we canned a lot of our foods and stuff. It was all down in the basement, and there was a main floor and you walked into the main floor from the front door. You walked in, and to get out of the basement you had to walk up the steps to leave the basement. It was on the side of the hill, and then the main floor had a living room kitchen, a parent's bedroom that had the cistern in it. One bathroom. That we all shared. It had a small shower and swinging doors on both sides. And we all shared that bathroom and my back porch, and then my dad put an upstairs in and it had warmers and my sister and I had in the bedroom, looked east at the front over the front door and my brothers had the bedroom that looked at the back of the barn. We only had wood heat. We lived off well water and wood heat. Spent a lot of weekends cutting wood.

**AR** [00:10:15] It sounds like you guys were very self-sustainable, which is hard to come by these days.

**JA** [00:10:22] I don't think that's that rare here. You know, in this environment, that's not unusual now in Dallas - Allen where I am, that's weird, but it's still not really here. It's still kind of - a lot of people are that way, the farms are small but very self-sufficient.

**AR** [00:10:46] Do you wish to take over the farm after your parents pass?

**JA** [00:10:50] No, I don't. My dad died almost five years ago, but my husband died three years ago and my brother died four years ago; and without the men, there's no way I can do it by myself. I just don't - it takes a lot to do this, mom has hired people helping her so she doesn't run cattle or

anything. She just keeps up the farm, and you could be on it if you leased it out, maybe, but it's a lot of work.

**AR** [00:11:27] It is.

**JA** [00:11:29] I would love to be able to, but I'm smart enough to know, I don't think I can do that by myself.

**AR** [00:11:37] That's understandable. I want to fast forward just a little bit to focus on your high school years. And first, can you tell me what school you attended and was that in San Antonio?

**JA** [00:11:49] No, we moved to Berryville when I was six. I was in first grade - I never went to kindergarten. They didn't have it, and we moved when I was in 1st grade and I went from 1st grade to 10th grade [inaudible] and then my dad's job transferred him to Mountain Home. I'm the only one of my four siblings that went to high school not being graduated from [inaudible]. I just went to my junior and senior year in Mountain Home, but then my parents got transferred back and they came back.

**AR** [00:12:18] It sounds like a lot of moving did that frustrate you, ever?

**JA** [00:12:24] I don't think I really noticed it when I was younger, because as long as my family was there - I was the youngest of four, my world was my brothers and sisters, wherever they were, I was there and it was all good. The move to Mountain Home was pretty hard because when you're 16, you have your friends, you've got your people and then when you get there, they have their friends and they have their people. It was a little bit different. I wouldn't trade it. I got some really

good musical training there that really led me down the path to my career, and I made a couple of really good friends and I'm still friends with. I wouldn't trade it. It was difficult because I was without my brothers and sisters, and I had never been without them around.

**AR** [00:13:17] It must have been hard. I don't have any siblings, I wouldn't be able to understand the connection that you would have with your younger, older siblings.

**JA** [00:13:25] They both love you and they torture you so it's a two pronged thing. It's a double edged sword.

[laughing]

**AR** [00:13:36] And during this time in high school, were there any instructors or coaches that left an impression on you that carried into college?

**JA** [00:13:46] Yeah, I would have to say the biggest one - I'd go back to sixth grade and sixth grade teacher, I told you would go to another town to get me by the name of Mr Browder. Iris E. Browder, and he played in a foul ball at the time, which I don't think was a big deal at that time. I mean, I think they got no money when they did it, but he was just an amazing teacher. He was always bringing in experiments for us. He had his truck with a PA and he drove around town in summer. Pick us all up in the bed of the truck and he would holler at us and let us - we'd all run around in the truck. He encouraged us to think outside the world that we were in because it's a small town, very small town. He was just the first teacher that just opened my whole world, and he never - once you were his student, he never lost him like you were his student forever. And then in high school, I would have to say it was my band director who was really important to me and a French teacher who was really good to me, too.

**AR** [00:14:56] And did your - I know you'd previously just mention this that your parents really encourage you to go on and pursue a higher level of education because they didn't. And what were some of the things that you were considering when selecting a college?

**JA** [00:15:18] I think my choosing of the college came down to finances, really. I chose graduate degrees quite differently because Norb guided me through that process. But to go to high school, my high school band director knew [inaudible] cousins with the college band director at UCA and I really wanted to go to a Baptist college and there were two I wanted to go to. And I'd done summer mission work and I thought I was going to be a religious education leader. And those schools are super duper expensive. And my high school band director was like, 'well, look, let me just call my cousin, Mr. Langston, and let's see what they've got and if they need any clarinet players or whatever.' I drove down and auditioned for him, not intending to be a music teacher. And he offered me a full scholarship. And things are just a little more wishy washy, like you didn't have to declare everything. Then I also did really good on the ACT test. Unknown to me because I hung out with really, really stupid smart people in high school, people who wrote, , like the SAT board and corrected their problem, corrected the questions. I didn't think I was very smart because they were stupid, smart. Like one of them works for the State Department and is all like, , like, they're all ridiculously smart. I was kind of surprised that I even got a decent score on it. I did, and I got a scholarship for my week. It was a year and I did - offered SAT/ACT and I did ACT. I know now SAT is like the bigger thing or after that it was. I got a scholarship for my academics, but I didn't think I would. I've already accepted the scholarship. I got to double - in those days, you couldn't double, you couldn't use multiple scholarships, you had to pick one. I ended up staying on the ACT scholarship, but joined in the band because I had been the first one to offer me a scholarship. And the cost of it versus the cost of any other school was way less. I decided to go to UCA and then I got a letter that asked me if I wanted to apply for the Honors College and I had no idea., and again,

like I hung out with smart people, that wasn't me - like they were the smart people that went. One of them went to Hendrix and John Crippen, he was the really smart one, and he was my carpool buddy and he eclipsed everybody around him. Nobody felt nearly as smart as you might like, he really is that smart. And my French teacher is the one that talked me into doing that application. I didn't think I would. They're not going to take me in, and then he did.

**AR** [00:18:26] Where did your passion for music come from?

**JA** [00:18:35] I don't know. I don't remember not reading music. My brothers and sisters took piano lessons and my dad played some guitar with my uncles. We never knew my grandpa on my dad's side, my dad was a three he was a really good musician and his aunts and uncles were, too. They played with Bill Star in her saloon. They were all in Oklahoma. He was a great musician. I don't - but I was never around him. But I learned to play piano with my brothers and sisters and then I was in band and piano lessons and I don't think I was particularly good, I was like the last chair for a lot of years, and then I wasn't. Then I started being good. It's just fun. I don't know. I think it's just sort of - it was never my intent to be a music major. It was my attempt to do a lot of other things, but I was kind of like, I don't know if you've read any of the letters that the poet Rilke wrote? The letters to the young poet that he wrote. But that's one of the things he says in there would be advising, a young poet said to him that, 'try to do everything else. If you're supposed to be a poet, then you will be, but try not to be. Because if you're supposed to be, then it will have a bill that way.' I tried to be everything but a musician and a music educator, and here I am.

**AR** [00:20:11] That's hilarious.

**AR** [00:20:12] When people started telling you about playing for the Honors program, what about it kind of drew your attention and made you at least somewhat interested, even though you were hesitant about it.

**JA** [00:20:28] I wish I could tell you I remember, and I don't.

**AR** [00:20:36] That's okay

**JA** [00:20:36] I don't. I remember being stressed out about the application.

**AR** [00:20:40] Yeah.

**JA** [00:20:40] I remember I wasn't going to do anything with it. I don't even know why I took it to that teacher and showed it to her. I've done real good in the band, and I had some clippings where I won some awards and stuff. She was like, You need to do that, you just need to try it. I think she's the one that helped me write the essays into the stuff that we had to do. I don't remember a lot.

**AR** [00:21:10] And when you did end up moving to UCA, did you miss your family since, of course, your siblings couldn't go with you on this experience?

**JA** [00:21:20] Yes.

**AR** [00:21:20] Oh, are you able to cope with the loss or did it take some time to...?

**JA** [00:21:28] I think the first year was a little rough, and then I think I was okay after that.

**AR** [00:21:37] What kind of transportation did you use in order to get from campus to other places?

[JA lifts foot to show her shoes]

[laughter]

**JA** [00:21:52] Now I have this friend, Paul Hawkins. He was in Honors for a while. He didn't stay with it all the way to the end, but he did a lot of it and he was my best friend. We're still really great friends and his mom and dad was it our sophomore year? Got him a banana, Ford Pinto station wagon banana. We called it the Banana Mobile, and he left the keys in and we all drove it, and if we needed to do laundry and stuff, we just all drove his car and they knew we were - they didn't really want everybody to drive it, but they knew we were all driving it. I just spent the week, 10 days with them in Vermont just this summer. College was very intense.

**AR** [00:22:44] How did the two of you meet? Or how did you become best friends?

**JA** [00:22:48] Um, it was in the hallway of the music building and it was during orientation. Because we got there before Honors, right? Band people always come before everybody else, right? And I remember we were down the hallway and I was doing something silly because I just came from being some missionary that I had to cancel over the summer, right? That was my second summer, 10 years on. And I just left that and I came and I think I was doing like a silly campfire song or something anyhow. I hear somebody singing along with me, and it's Paul, and he could probably remember more details than me. They come around the corner and he's like - I don't remember exactly what he said, but basically said, 'you're like my mother.' And I was like, 'well,

thank you.' Like that's not a compliment, I feel like that's not it. But then I met her, and that's the best company you'll every get and we were best friends from then on.

**AR** [00:23:41] Wow. That's a cute story, and I know we talked a little bit about it in the pre-interview, but you did actually know Norb, and I think I told you that we were required to watch a documentary about the history of the Honors College, and it mentioned how Norb opened his home to students and even accommodated individuals to live with him. And did you take advantage of that opportunity of living with his family and getting to know them?

**JA** [00:24:12] I don't know if I remember anybody else living with them before I did. I think his kids were still there, David was still there for part of while we were in school. No, maybe not. Maybe David left home, right then, but I cleaned their house for quite a few years and Bob Lowry, Dr. Bob, I cleaned his house too. Nancy Gray, if you interview Nancy Gray? I don't know if you've got her on your list, but she cleaned their house there too, and then she could do it or something. And I took it over and I walked to all their houses a lot. And then they would see me, all the leftovers, and then I walk to the next one and they would feed me their leftovers and I'd walk back to campus. But yes, I lived upstairs for just a semester.

**AR** [00:25:09] Was that their attic?

**JA** [00:25:12] Yes.

**AR** [00:25:12] And how far were the walking distances do you think these houses were in relation to the campus?



**JA** [00:25:22] Oh, they were down at College. There used to be that - there's still a store on that corner, on College - it was a grocery - I mean, it was a drug store at the time. And you just walked down, I went from the dorms to there and then up to College. And they were, I don't know, I never worried about it.

**AR** [00:25:46] Yeah, how would you describe Norb's personality since you had the opportunity to know him on a more personal level?

**JA** [00:25:58] He always had a twinkle in his eye and he was always teaching no matter what was going on. It was always a learning moment. And he could take anything, just any average experience that was going on or a fluffy little thing going on; and he turned them into learning moments, but they were clever and he was clever and he knew how to get us out of our comfort zone. And then when things - when we were maybe too uncomfortable, he put us back, he would help us to kind of find that center again. You know? He was just fun. Not in a 'chummy with the kids', 'go out with the kids' kind of fun. He was very friendly with us and his office door was always open. He kept it stocked with Earl Grey tea and we can make coffee in the closet anytime we wanted. And in the evenings when he wasn't there, we could still use his office to study. He would let us use that room as a study room, he was very open that way. But on the other hand, I think there was also a very formal barrier in that he was way above - it wasn't chummy as an equals -

**AR** [00:27:27] He was still an authority figure.

**JA** [00:27:27] Yeah, there was a lot of respect for him because he's just brilliant. But he loved to debate, oh my gosh, he would do anything to stir up a debate. He would take any side to anything

just because, that's what he lived for; and I'm like, from this very sincere point of view. I came in very, this is right...this is wrong - very sincere, very straight forward in my thinking. Very practical, step by step. He just blew my world wide open.

**AR** [00:28:05] Did you ever find yourself in a heated debate with him?

**JA** [00:28:12] Always. When I lived upstairs, that was funny, because that was at the end. At this point, now, it's been like four or five years I've known him and I've been cleaning their house or even when I was clean house. But he would if I would come in late at night. And I've got these spiral stairs in the mud room and his office door opened onto it and it is like he was waiting on me. He *was* waiting on me. And he would just sit there and wait. And the debate always was, does narrative precede existence? And that's what we would debate. And does something need to have a narrative before it can exist? And we kept that conversation going, all through grad school when I was first, when I moved to Texas, we're still writing back and forth. Why? Which point of view and why, and I would go back and forth and then we tell him why and he would be, he would throw out ideas and like we would think about it for a while. This was an ongoing multi year conversation between us.

**AR** [00:29:15] Wow, that's really impressive. What is your opinion if you don't mind expressing it?

**JA** [00:29:21] Oh, I changed. I mean, especially after I remember after Isaac was born and I had a baby, only everything's changed. Like now, the world is completely different. I just see all of this in a completely different way. And he would talk about John in the Bible right? Says the Word, the Word has to come first. Right? And we would have that conversation a lot and then I would say, I don't know like - without the narrative, where do you put things there? And it would just give us

really rich conversations today to turn this point of view around, and of course, he could talk circles around anybody, but that wasn't - he didn't even need to be right, ever. Never needed to be right. He just engaged. His point was to bring up something that could be debated, not for the sake of the debate, but to dive deeper into knowing the people around him.

**AR** [00:30:33] That's beautiful.

**JA** [00:30:33} Very loving person.

**AR** [00:30:34] And do you miss having those exchanges now that he's passed lately?

**JA** [00:30:39] Completely. When Carol -  
[inaudible]

**JA** [00:30:39] - did I save any letters, is that what you said? I have some of them. Yeah, I don't think I've gotten any letters in probably about 10 years. He's - my husband died in February, and Norb died in May. And Carol and I were like, she's like, I can't believe you beat me, I'm like, I know I'm not supposed to be a widow before, ? But for about five years to seven years before that, we didn't - there was no there was no - I would go to visit sometimes.

**AR** [00:31:26] Yeah, do you feel that treating students and faculty like a family unit adds some more enriching experience on campus? Because now the Honors program here and I know Hendrix does not live up to that same standard as it had in the past. Professors inviting students to their homes and having dinners and things of the such.

**JA** [00:31:49] I mean, how can it not change what the product is? I think the professors were more invested in us because they were building a program, and I don't know where I have a clipping, but I don't mean this in a derogatory way, but I think by the time they selected us for the Honors College, I don't think I would be selected now. Norb was great at looking for capacity in an individual, not ability. Does that make sense to you? And I think the Honors College is up to date now all across the country are looking for students who already have an ability; and I think when they selected us, those kids have already been pulled off. They are declared and because the Honors College didn't - I don't think we even applied - I mean, some of ya'll already know some of these details. Yes, but I don't think we even applied for Honors until the spring. I mean, I don't think I got - maybe I did? But I don't think we even knew our acceptance or anything until graduation, and then we had a reading list for the summer.

**AR** [00:33:09] Right.

**JA** [00:33:09] We were selected based on our capacity to become something special. Not necessarily that we were something special, like my super smart friend I was telling you about from my school. He was at the Hendrix. He was in there, , and he had known that forever and I think they had an investment in us to prove that this experiment could work; and I think we were all experimenting together, and I think that we were all pulling from the same thing: was to create this experience, and the only thing we needed to create was the picture that Norb had brought to us. And again, he brought the narrative. We created the thing into existence, right? And in many ways, his narrative did precede the existence of Honors College, and in many ways it did. It wouldn't have ever happened if he couldn't have talked to the President at the time into believing in it and I think the family atmosphere of that was just all of us, 'oh my gosh!' And each thing that we built, we felt very invested in it and hopeful for it and we're proud of it. I think I wouldn't get in now, I don't

think. You know, that wasn't me, I was a good student and I had a good GPA and I had a good ACT, but I don't think I was that.

**AR** [00:34:52] How did it feel to know that you were a part of the experiment and then realizing that it was going to be successful and last -

**JA** [00:35:01] - I think we did a lot get along at all. I was forever, just because of who I was. I was very - but I was forever the one hopping up to go make tea for everybody and serve everybody. But that is also my personality. I like to be of service to people. And Norb would say, 'would you sit down? Your job is not to serve the tea, it's to have the conversation.'

**AR** [00:35:30] What kind of tea did you guys serve?

**JA** [00:35:32] Tea? Oh all Earl Gray with honey. That's all Norb would buy us. Norb would come to school with his lunch in his messenger bag kind of thing. And it would be like half a stalk of celery with the leaves hanging out of it and carrots with the fronds hanging out of the pocket.

**AR** [00:35:58} Oh my.

[laughing]

**JA** [00:36:00] With honey and it was Earl Gray. Yeah, I'd really never drunk Earl Gray and now it's like my basic tea, ?

**AR** [00:36:10] It is really good. You also wrote here that your capstone is titled 'Three Aesthetics of Music.' I hope I don't slaughter these names, but they are Stravinsky, Whitehead and Mayer. Do what inspired you to write about this subject matter?

**JA** [00:36:28] I'm just going to correct this renunciation of one. Got it, Stravinsky, Whitehead and *Mayer* and - I came to it backwards. I started in my junior year with the paper and I was going to write on the art created in concentration to this. I don't really remember if it was a speaker or a class or how I found out about it, the art, but I started researching how much art was created clandestinely, , in the concentration camps. It might have been through the music because there is a really famous string quartet called the Quartet from the End of Time by Hessian and we had studied that and he wrote it while he was in a concentration camp. And then I think I just branched out from there and got really interested in - there's a lot of art that was produced and hidden and snuck out and found later, and that's that sort of thing. To me, it was just profound. It just shook my world. It shook my world too much. I got really depressed and I got really overwhelmed by it and my professors were good to tell me, 'let's write a paper about this and not make it your major research project,' because I just got too invested in it and I was deep into it that I started rooting, , kind of feeling maybe like: What if what if this happened now, what if this was me, where would I be in this? And I had trouble extricating myself from the thing that I was researching? And I was really fascinated with ways that we not just music art helps us speak to others. And how do we know? I just narrowed that down to music and I had a music professor that helped me with that - he was the orchestra person. And but two of my music professors jumped in to help and a music history teacher, and that's where I got. Stravinsky wrote a thing called 'Poetics of Music,' and of course he came from - he emigrated and he was writing this in the United States, right? And he was writing about how to create meaning in music. And then Mayer wrote a book called 'Emotion in Music' and he talks about that. Stravinsky was more about the intangibles, he would say things like you have to have. I'm going to paraphrase. This is the one, he said you have to have something to stand on in the sea to move forward, and that's what the rules of music give you. Because if you have endless possibilities and nothing's impossible or off the record, you just drown. You've got to have

something to work against him towards or something. This is a paraphrase - a very bad hatchet job on his incredible book, but the Mayer book talks more about - if you have an expressive interval and you want to express more emotion in it, the wider the interval ascending feels more - and we talk about age and travel and how wide it is and how much meaning it is. It's all very fascinating. And then Norb coached me on Whitehead and his philosophy. And it was a really fun way to bring together three different ways of looking at experience and how we communicate from one to another. We even did some Buber, Martin Buber the [inaudible] experience and all that kind of thing with Norb. It was fun. It was interesting, but really it spun off of me getting a little too involved - now I could do it, but I have those barriers that , you're young. You don't yet have a lot of ways to just shut things off and compartmentalize. That's a skill that you have to learn. I think that overwhelmed me, and they were nice enough to help me work my way past that and get a really good, more definitive project out of it.

**AR** [00:41:07] Where does she get your resources for your research? Was it the library or did you use another form of data?

**JA** [00:41:16] I read books that each of them and then I researched them and I interviewed people that knew a lot and I don't remember past that.

**AR** [00:41:35] I know usually you have to present your theses and were you nervous about that? But was it rewarding for you too after you finally finish something, a project you invested so much emotion into?

**JA** [00:41:46] I was nervous, but I was really excited about it and then I was really annoyed because some of the people that were invited to the defense, I wondered if they'd even read it

because I was not proposing a global is always is my proposition was on a very limited scope and most of the questions asked of me in my defense were like: Did you just read the synopsis of this, or did you read it because the people that weren't completely involved with me on a day to day basis were trying to turn it into something that I had proposed in the thesis, and they were just trying to get me to think bigger. But at the time, I was - because I felt like they'd make themselves look good and not giving me a chance to show what I had learned and proposed, but that made them look like they knew a lot and I was thinking like, That's not fair because this isn't your defense. This is my defense. They were oral defenses, right? But I think that's how it was supposed to be. I think it was still a learning experience, even in the defense that they tried to blow open my - I had taken all these ideas and put them together to this. And then they tried to open that back up. And I get that. I saw it as me holding it and then falling apart. And now I see it as me traveling to this central location and they opened the next door. That's not how I felt it at the time. It felt to me like they've taken my product and blown it up. You know, instead of a journey. I was kind of annoyed because the people that were asking those questions were not honest people. They were mainly from the music department and there were people that hadn't taught us they were in the Honors program, they were coming at it more from an academic rigor point of view, which I get now I do, but at the time I was very annoyed but that was really fun.

**AR** [00:43:50] How did Norb encourage you into the master's program that you were accepted in?

**JA** [00:43:57] Oh, he encouraged all of us number one, and we were encouraged to -we sat and talked about what , what to do. He didn't encourage anybody to want to go forward just to go forward. And I think one of the best narratives that we were given is that - it's really hard once you leave college and you go out into the regular world, you begin to acquire debts and responsibilities and it's hard to go back. If there's any way prior to that when you're still used to being poor, we



went to school a lot different than kids now. There was no Starbucks and we ate like we were poor. We didn't get our nails done. We didn't get a haircut. We cut each other's hair. We didn't go out to eat. We were poor. And he encouraged us to stay that way and to keep going because once we got a different standard - I don't know what he said about standard of living. That's my thinking of it now, but just once we grew into a different adult style of life, it was going to be really hard to go back into that. And we were encouraged to consider it, and we're given help to do it. But if we didn't, he supported those people too and basically my takeaway, what you did three schools you knew you could get into three schools you didn't think you could get into and three that you'd be thrilled if you did get into some kind of assured, probably not, and 'woo' that would be great. And I did, I applied to nine schools. Finding nine schools to apply for is a lot of effort. You know, there was no internet in those days you had to talk to a lot of people. A lot of the schools I applied to were schools that my music professors had attended and they would have me talk to somebody . Oh, you need to talk to someone. They went to this school so I could call somebody that I didn't even know and I'd ask them about, , northern Colorado or Florida State or wherever. And we were encouraged to do that - there weren't any grants and Challenge brands or travel abroad brands. None of that existed yet. But if we run out of money, somebody's going to get something for us to help us with it. I think the teachers probably still do that.

**AR** [00:46:32] Out of the nine schools that you applied to, which ones accepted your application?

**JA** [00:46:40] Not a clue. I know UCA did and I did some classes there and as student teaching, there was a weird year of this year in there that was weird. But when I got my final three were Florida State, University of Iowa, and Northern Colorado, really. And I went to visit them and talked to people that went there and when I decided to go to Iowa and when I did, I didn't transfer

any credits. Now, in this day and age that was stupid, because it's expensive, but I wanted the whole experience there because I just wanted it to be rigorous. Anyone? It was very rigorous.

**AR** [00:47:42] How do you feel that the honors program benefited you during your masters, were there any skill sets or things that you learned that helped you in the situation, your new chapter in your life?

**JA** [00:47:54] I don't know about y'all, but we had to write papers until they told us we didn't have to write papers anymore. You couldn't just write a paper or get a bad grade on it and go to the next one. There were times we were writing four papers at one time because they wouldn't accept it. We had to keep writing until they accepted. There were a lot of times we got critiques that were longer than the paper we wrote. We hand wrote them in those days, I don't know. I used to have a file cabinet or a file box thing that had some of them in there. But we hand wrote them and we had to leave empty lines for them to write in and there were times they wrote more than we wrote. It was a very tedious process, I'd never done anything like that, and it really helped I think when I was in a master's program - even though mine was performance, but I had so much of that background that like I was offered to stay there and do a Doctorate in both Theory and a Doctorate in History because I was just interested in it, but I was - they had turned me into that kind of students, if that makes sense? And I guess I felt empowered and I wrote controversial papers about things that the teachers there liked, instead of my former straightforward self I would say. I'd write papers about music and I would say this is not really one instrument it is three instruments, the composer doesn't see this as a trio. Look at the way he's written it. He sees it as one instrument. And my teacher was like, how can you say that? like he wrote, trail on the table. He doesn't look at the way he wrote it. He doesn't ever use them individually. And that is one continuous sound. And I would have never

been able to think of something that lay before without being within the Honors College in the kind of writing thinking that we did there.

**AR** [00:50:05] I can't imagine writing out all of your essays. Today, I'm used to just whipping up a Google Doc, type it in and forwarding that to the professor with the link or something. It's just - technology is very different, clearly.

**JA** [00:50:18] We have to do some type at the end and that was a big deal like you wanted to perfect before you started typing because if you make a mistake you got to start that page over, it's a lot of work. And then in the middle of - I don't remember what year it was probably '83- '84? We got some PC's.<sup>1</sup> They had words on them, Bob King, it was our word. We called it Bond star. And there was word processing on this and they were right off Virginia's office and he helped us all learn how to use these PC's. But at the time, UCA was still using the mainframe with key punch cards. Okay? But we got to use some of the very first PC's anybody's ever seen. I think we had two, two or three. Yeah. We did get to type a little bit on them. When I went to grad school, I was smart as I had already used, and they Macs there. I had already - but they were still tied to this mainframe. You had to go to another building on campus to get your stuff. But yes, we did have a little bit of word processing and when I went to get my masters that summer, there was a typewriter. I still have it in the garage, a typewriter that would say one entire page to the screen on. It's about this big [holds up hands to express size of screen] to match matchbooks, side by side and you can read what you had typed, and you could use this button to push up incorrect things before it landed on the paper. You didn't have to use white out - if my teachers borrowed my typewriter. I got a load of bait and bought it in and submitted it before I went to grad school and my teachers were borrowing that typewriter because it could remember an entire page. You could type the whole page and look at it. Can you

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1. PC - Personal Computer

imagine how much of it you could read? But it felt amazing because you didn't have to use white out. You could get a clean page. Yeah. It was pretty awesome.

**AR** [00:52:28] How do you feel about computers and technology now?

**JA** [00:52:34] I use them, I don't mind them. I mean, I think - I led a band program through a pandemic using technology right, and Google classrooms, Zoom, flipped grids, we got all the stuff going on. And a lot of technology in my classroom and they used it. But I still think that technology should only be a tool. And I feel like we have given it a pass. And now all you have to do is, say, technology, and it's in a sacred category and we don't pay attention to it as the tool that it is, just like television, just like radio, just like everything else. I think we have to be really careful in and humanize ourselves and categorize our technology. I think it gets a pass and people don't give it any rigorous thought because it has the category of technology. And we just dive into it and maybe it's not the best. Maybe that's not the answer. I think our children have lost so much physically. That's what my band director and myself believe, if you can't ask a kid to raise their index finger. They don't know where it is anymore. [inaudible] They didn't even think of it. [begins to sing next phrase] Where is pointer where is pointer - they don't know what, they don't know the names or figures. And if I do these little exercises, I say do what I do, every year when I'm trying to get kids to see what their dexterity is like and I used to be able to do this and then do patterns and kids could do it. Now I have to say - and they'll go - and I'll go no which one is that? The one closest to the thumb or the one farthest from? We have to do body mapping. They don't know where it is. We have to go, Oh, here's your thumb, now what's the finger like that one's closer to the thumb than this one, right? Okay, we're going to call that one one. That one's really tall, right? That's the bad boy. We know - they know this because they know what people are like, but most of them know its flipping off but don't even know this is a ring finger anyone with. Pinky, we're usually good. Yeah,

but my job is to make sure they know what it doesn't, don't leave me not knowing since simple things like that, how do we lose that? We lost that because of technology, we gave technology the job and it does some jobs very well, but it doesn't do human jobs very well. And I think I'm not scared of it, but I also don't embrace it for the sake of newness.

**AR** [00:55:30] Yeah, I think that's very well put about how they don't do human jobs very well. I like that a lot. And how do you feel currently about the state of the Honors program? Do you feel it continues to live up to the standards that Norb and Bob Lowry had set up and including yourself to?

**JA** [00:55:50] I don't know that I know enough about it. I mean, I'm a drop in visitor. I talked to Patricia. I hear good things, I see good things. I came and did a graduation luncheon. What year was that? Probably 2012 - 2011 - 2012 was the last time. And I got to give a speech at the conference because I was the first person that graduated from Honors, just purely by virtue of the fact that my name starts with 'A'. That's it. That's why I was invited, and I got to stay with Norb and Carroll for the weekend and I got to do all the stuff I got to visit - what one of the things I spoke about or said in that I was just that our thesis did not have these cool titles like these were really like hip, cool thing. Ours were very formal, ? But that's really been my last long interaction with Honors after Norb's funeral and that kind of thing, but we're usually together, so it seems like it's still the same thing because we're in our own little clique. I don't really have any interactions other than Facebook with the current students. It's not - I mean - when have you seen a lot of alumni there? I've never been asked to come, I mean, maybe if they live in town like they do alumni come to events now? Have you seen them at UCA?

**AR** [00:57:31] Yes, I mean when we have our oh, what is it called, left my mind? The sophomore matriculation - when we announce our topics and things a bunch of alumni is required to join us and

interview us and ask questions and criticize our work too. But they come for that, I think there are a few other events. I think I Squared they have to ask alumni to come join them. But in all sincerity, I have never lived in Farris Hall and I've never really been that connected to the Honors program, except for classes. I can't really say event wise how involved the alumni are or not.

**JA** [00:58:14] I've never seen anything that says, come be part of anything like that. Maybe I'm not reading my email.

**AR** [00:58:23] I don't know, but it's certainly something that I feel the Honors program could probably work a little bit better on. But I mean, I feel the Oral History Project is just kind of a good way to start that, just start collecting the stories before it's too late. But when you ended your time with the Honors College at UCA, what were some of the emotions and thoughts? Were you sad to leave? Everyone and being a new part of your life?

**JA** [00:58:50] Definitely.

**AR** [00:58:55] What do you feel like or what were you going to miss the most?

**JA** [00:59:12] Being noticed. Somebody just knows that you're present, caring how your day is, You go to grad school, you're just a face. You don't really get those experiences in a lot of places. Sounds like you didn't get a lot of them except in the classroom, but we didn't have a residence hall when we were there. When you talk about that, we didn't have that. But what we did have was a backdoor that would open with people's house keys from our homes, like our homes, and my house's key did open the back door of the building. We spent a lot of time dodging security in the honors center. That's wonderful.

**AR** [01:00:11] And that was out with you and your friend group.

**JA** [01:00:15] Yeah. It wasn't just my key that would open it , it was other people's keys too that would open it too. Yeah. we would go up and hang out in the evenings. I remember the very first - have you ever heard of a radio show that was called Prairie Home Companion?

**AR** [1:00:30] Yes, I grew up on that show.

**JA** [01:00:31] Okay, I didn't. And the first time I was introduced to it. What was it? Probably '80s? I don't know. We could look it up because I was up there laying on the couch. Nobody else is in the whole building. How safe is that, right? And it's like a Friday night between 5PM and 7PM, because that's when it played. And I'm laying on the couch. No lights on. Because if you lay on the couch and security thing in the way the doors where they get to you. And I'm listening - somebody told me to listen to it. I put on the radio and I'm listening to Prairie home Companion and this desk was a wood carver. And to me, like I was hooked from then on, like, who runs a radio show and invites a wood carver? Like, who would do that? Not many people would think that it would be a fantastic guest on a radio show, and I was just delighted by the whole thing. I was just hooked from then on and I watched it all the time and we were up there, like when the Space Shuttle broke apart. I was - that's where we were. We watched it blow up or we were when Cosby came on. That's where we were. Big deal. We were going to watch the last episode of M\*A\*S\*H there, but we ended up watching it in the dorm room instead. That was a big deal while we were in school, but we were there a lot watching tv and hanging out. It was our residence hall replacement. And there were cliques, then there was this group and that group and then this group didn't move in. That group did. And , we're the smart people and then we're the not smart people. You know, it was it was it was

still those things, and I still had all its drama and there were people that just. You know, melted away from us too. It wasn't perfect, it wasn't an ideal world or anything, but I think there was a lot of love between us.

**AR** [01:02:34] Now, why do you think people left the honors program, was it just because of relational conflicts while during the program?

**JA** [01:02:41] I think some of it was religion because at that time the moral majority was in Bologna? Have you ever heard of them? They were extremely religious-right. You've not heard of them? You need to check them out. They're awful. Okay? But that's recorded, isn't it? That's when they started. Like, this is the beginning of this extreme religious right thing. And it was in Bologna and they would come on campus and they boycotted them, letting us watch VH1 and MTV. And there were preachers always standing out in the Commons telling us we were all going to Hell. And we have quite a few people, I mean I was one of them taking a very, very black and white way to live this way. And Norb was able to guide me back to understanding my religion just in a different way, like he did. What is the goal? The program wasn't to take people away from their religion, it was to help them to be critical thinkers within that right and still not change you, just have you open your mind to other ideas. And I think sometimes at that time, I remember I was going to the Second Baptist Church that was right across from that drive-in that served milkshakes upside down. But I was there and in that service and this preacher, I was going every Sunday. That's what I did. And this preacher started saying that women are under the umbrella of God's - Bill Gothard was teaching, and that women didn't pray directly to God. That a woman was under her father's umbrella and she prayed under her father's prayers interceded for her and that that was to maintain until she had a husband who then was her umbrella, and the husband had the relationship with God, and the woman had the relationship with God - and I just got up and walked out. That was it. And I was



angry, and I couldn't deal with it anymore. Norb really helped guide me back to an understanding of religion that wasn't patriarchal. Not saying - I can deny that without having to deny my faith. And before that, I could not separate them. And then I knew how, then I learned how to separate.

**AR** [01:05:20] Are you still associated with the Baptist denomination or are you with a different...

**JA** [01:05:25] - I attend a Methodist church.

**AR** [01:05:33] Methodist, yes. And let's see, I feel like we kind of covered already about how the Honors College was applicable. Do you feel that what you learned during the Honors College and things exchanged between you and Norb still continue to be relevant in your life today, especially as a teacher?

**JA** [01:05:54] Oh, definitely. Yeah, and I think the way I teach is very influenced by Norb, I like to keep my students stirred up. I like to keep them wondering what I'm going to do next. And I always preface things with I'm going to be direct here, but I love you. You as a person, I'm going to be direct about what just happened. Now, I want you to think about that with me. But you personally, you're like, I'm not telling, I'm not I'm not making this judgment of you, I'm making this 'let's talk about this,' because we need to discuss this and look at it from some other points of view. And I think my students would rather me just send them to the office and give them detention, than to have those conversations with me. But I told them, I said, I'm not teaching the person sitting here. I'm teaching the kid I'm going to see in 10-12 years as an adult and I see the adult you're going to become. And that's why I'm talking to you right now. This is all just normal middle school junk. Let's just set that aside for a minute. Where are you going to be 10-12 years from now? Let's talk to that person and try to give them some framing for the experiences of these volatile years in their life

and even some framing for the pandemic experience that they've had. I identify when our world was a very secure place and very predictable, and I can't identify with what you're going through. But I do know that you're going to go through it. You're not in a room. The door is not closed. You're in a passageway. And the light's turned off. And you can keep going. You're going to pass through it. Just don't stop - thinking you're in a room and think this is the end of everything in this corner. But you've got to be your own person to make your own decisions. And we talk about, I mean, I talk about things with them. I would never have done that. Not being the recipients of that. Somebody diving in and saying, yes, education sometimes hurts, it hurts to grow, it hurts to dig deep and in and explore other ways of seeing the world and other ways of experiencing the world through learning. It hurts. If you're really looking at it, it can hurt. It's troubling to find your way back because it feels like everything comes apart. You have to put it back together. But then you also have the chance to clean up a little bit before you put it back together. And I think if I hadn't had that experience, I wouldn't be the same kind of teacher as I am now. I don't think I'm as good as Norb. I wish I could be.

**AR** [01:08:48] If you could leave us with one bit of wisdom or advice for listeners, what would it be?

**JA** [01:08:58] Who would my listening audience be? Probably some Honors kid, some fun doing a paper. Do yall still read the quote from Adlai Stevenson 'Your Days Here Are Short?'

**AR** [01:09:17] Yes.

**JA** [01:09:20] Read that, and really bring it into your heart. And know that your days really are short, you don't know. In two short years, I lost my sister in law, my dad, my brother, my husband,

my mother in law. Just in the blink of an eye. And the structure of my life just changed radically, and everything changes. We don't know. You have to see this in the short events, even when it feels long. You have to see a way just to stand above it. Get some perspective when things are really hard so that you can be determined to finish it. Even if what you finish isn't very good, it doesn't matter. The process of finishing is what matters, being able to complete the task that you think, not everybody around you. And that's one of the things that I struggle with is how come at this age in my life, I need all the fun stuff. I'm a widow. None of my friends are. I've dealt with all this stuff when nobody else is - they're all planning fun vacations. I can't do any of that. If you look at it that way and do comparisons, you say why? Why is the world not the way - why is my world, not the way other people's public vs. what's been given to me and my world? What's expected of me? And how do I complete this? And what is the path forward? We - not for everybody else, but what do I need to do with this? What can I inherit? Every bad experience doesn't have to have a redemptive quality. It doesn't have to have a survival agent. Something good does not have to come out. But there does have to be survival and there is something strong and determined about that survival aspect and then taking that experience forward and letting it inform the next phase when you can do that, even if the product is not great, you did it every time you step off you are stronger, you are more determined and you don't care what other people have in the world because you suddenly realize I see what the split they have and what I have. And I see what I have learned from some aspects that don't look fair. You start down that slippery slope. It doesn't look like more than half that way. He didn't teach us to think about our experiences and when you look around, you say, okay I'm now informed with these experiences that I can't take them away. They're not necessarily positive. But I can - I am a different person and I can approach the next thing in my life with these skills and I can be better and my world needs me to be better. And that's what the world needs of us. And if you come to honors and you can't make the world better - I don't know that it's doing what Norb wanted it to do. I think that's what he wanted it to do. He wanted it to change, to change

people and change people that we came in contact with, but the world was a better place because we could see deeper than the immediate. In front of us.

**AR** [01:13:35] Wow, that was - I really appreciate that response, and I think it was very poetic - is what I'm trying to say. Is There anything that we didn't really discuss today that you would like to add to your archives?

**JA** [01:13:54] Honors was really fun, and together we had so much fun, even when we were annoyed with each other, we would get mad at each other or not talk to each other for a semester. I mean, I don't remember any specifics to that, but I do know that we would get mad at each other. We went places. There was a conference in Salt Lake City and a group of us went. I mean, it was a hoot. I was in debates with people from the - with men, the elders from the Mormon church that came over and they wanted to argue with us. I was arguing with them and we were on airplanes together. And we were having all the normal like brothers, sisters kind of thing, ? But we loved each other too, and we had a blast. We just had so many new experiences. We did the Battle Creek thing on planet stuff together, Muhamad and stuff together, and we made food together. We got to have dinners with visiting dignitaries, whereas I don't know if they do that now. I did not hear you say anything like this but when we had special guests, I mean, famous ones being Jimmy Carter, Shirley Chisholm, but we had authors of books coming in politicians and stuff, and we know most colleges, the professors all go and do their professor stuff, right? But in those days it was Honors. They put them in a room with us. We prep and we talk to them. They also let us sit in on job interviews so we could see how it was from the interviewer side. We remodeled parts of the hallway. We took out bathrooms, made study girls. I mean, some of that marble we took upstairs the nord's where I rented it out of the upstairs that have marble desktops that we took out of those bathrooms and hauled up the stairs and painted things. I mean, we were always doing stuff, and when we didn't have stuff to

do like Virginia was the secretary, she would hire you to come to her house. And I remembered Liquid Golding like a whole hallway of wooden cabinets for her, just laughing the entire time. It was just a lot of fun. We ran around campus and put up signs for challenge week. We felt we were all edgy and everything and it was just fine, but we had a lot of fun. We really did. We and we came up with a really good idea and we could back it up and they supported us. You know, it was a really fun time in life, and a very hard time. It was also very difficult because we were expected to. Wow, just step up. You know, you couldn't hide. It was different, I'd never been the subject of academic rigor because when I was in high school, man, if I didn't like somebody and solve [inaudible] said. I'm not going to need that. And rigor wasn't really a thing for me in high school, I was just I was smart, but I wasn't really ever tested, like tested as in pushed to get smarter. I was smart enough. Right? And in Honors, I was expected to be more in, to be better and to be, , grow all the time. And I've never had that and it was really cool. We had a good time. It was fun.

**AR** [01:17:48] I'm somewhat a little jealous of the experiences that you had. We don't really do as much with the dignitaries anymore, unfortunately. It would be neat to meet with different politicians and such. But I mean, just times change. Things don't make sense. But yes, that pretty much sums up the interview overall. Before we sign off, though, was there anything in particular you wanted to keep out of the archive that was said?

**JA** [01:18:21] Oh, I will send you - o, no, I don't. I will get copies of these. But I think we talked about these the last time. I'll send you - I'll pull these out and get some copies. This is like me and Norb. [pulls out photo album] This is our senior banquet, my medal. And those are pictures of me in awe. They're still in the plastic. It's crazy. Yeah.

**AR** [01:18:49] These are great. Yeah, do you send those my way? I would love to see them.

**JA** [01:18:52] That's me wearing my medal looking very funny, see my medal?

**AR** [01:19:03] I do.

**JA** [01:19:04] I love spiritualism, my family, and then I didn't have a lot and then this, these are all of my oral defense. They're not great pictures, but these are the people that helped me. That's the day of my oral defense. I'll send these - I know you said you like scans of them and everything, and I'll send them. Norb sitting in his chair [points at photo]. Wait, you give me a brief - I'll send you some scans of that. And I don't know. I ever do find that. I know I have a file folder with some of the stuff, and then I'll send those up to somebody, but I'll send those ones once I can get to a scanner. Our computer was on the fritz and it would not work, and then my neighbors were going to do it, and then she fell she had to go to the emergency room. And then the weather changed and I decided to come to mom's earlier and I could not go to school some. You don't have any, and I'll get it all to you once I'm technologically able.

**AR** [01:20:02] You're good. Don't worry too much about it. But overall, again, I do want to thank you for being here with me today and having this conversation. I think it's going to be a great addition to the honors archive. And after the fact, I will make sure to send you a copy of the audio recording that you have it for your own purpose, whatever it may be.

**JA** [01:20:21] Good, and where are you moving when you graduate?

**AR** [01:20:25] Oh, I don't really know I'll either be going overseas or I'll still be in the states. We'll find out where the government takes me.

**JA** [01:20:34] When - it's your fiance that's going right?

**AR** [01:20:39] Yes, ma'am.

**JA** [01:20:39] You said you're following him. When will you all be married?

**AR** [01:20:44] We are expecting a little less than three years from now. I honestly wanted to finish my degree and him his law degree, of course. And then just to kind of get a little bit more settled down two years from now. It made sense to us, and it gives us plenty of time to further get to know one another just because we get to live together.

**JA** [01:21:06] Yeah, cool to travel and have all kinds of fun experiences together, and [inaudible].

**AR** [01:21:15] Yes, I'm really excited.

**JA** [01:21:16] It was nice getting to know you

**AR** [01:21:19] likewise, and if you ever want to stay in touch, you can either follow my Facebook account if you want to. I know the alumni usually stay in touch through Facebook, but it's just Avery Rudolph.

**JA** [01:21:32] Facebook was cool and new at one point, I mean, and then you just have so many years invested in it. It would be a hassle to go somewhere else. I thought about trying to be held up

in arms like everybody else from like, , how much work it is to go find all those people again.

They're going to steal my personal information. It's not that I'm not exciting.

**AR** [01:21:57] I think at this point they could just find anything about you anyway already. It doesn't make much sense.

**JA** [01:22:03] Like what is secret like? Okay, you just Google it and find it. Yeah.

**AR** [01:22:12] The World Wide Web, it's a blessing and a curse, I think.

**JA** [01:22:16] Maybe, yes. Good luck to you and I hope your semester ends well and graduation's great and all that stuff. And for all the excitement coming up.

**AR** [01:22:27] Thank you, I really appreciate it. And same to you as well. I hope things are going well for your mother and that you're able to get back safely home in Allen, Texas.

**JA** [01:22:37] Yeah, I had to get up here before noon. I could be up on the mountain in the snow tomorrow.

**AR** [01:22:43] Oh gosh. Just be safe. We're supposed to get snow here on Friday as well.

**JA** [01:22:47] Yeah, yes, she is. Do I think the weather is pretty similar? I mean, it's only three or four hours down to Conway from where I am. And yes, the mountains are really beautiful in the snow and I just wanted to get a chance to tromp around in it before I go back or be bored.



**AR** [01:23:04] Good. Enjoy it while you can then.

**JA** [01:23:07] Thank you. You have a good evening and thank you for doing all this.

**AR** [01:23:12] Likewise, have a good one.

**JA** [01:23:13] Okay, bye.

**[END OF INTERVIEW]**