

Interview with
Vieva Lewallen Hagestrom
Conducted by Dean Bones
April 4, 2004

Dean: *Okay... so this is Dean Bones, and I'm interviewing Vieva Lewallen Hagestrom on April the 4th, 2004 at Five Rivers Retirement Center...*

Vieva: Uh, huh (yes)...

Dean: *Yay... so, do you mind saying when you were born, Vieva?*

Vieva: No, I don't mind... July 25th, 1915.

Dean: *And where were you born?*

Vieva: Right there in the house in Hebo.

Dean: *Right in Hebo, or was it outside of Hebo?*

Vieva: Outside of Hebo on... you know, where Homer and Helen lived...

Dean: *Right...*

Vieva: Where my folks lived...

Dean: *Past the cheese... (past the cheese...)... past the fish hatchery... is the second place past...*

Vieva: Yeah... yeah... yeah...

Dean: *Yours was the... where you and John lived was the first one, right?*

Vieva: Yeah... uh, huh (yes)... uh, huh (yes)...

Dean: *Tell what you know about the history of your family, even before they came to this area... where were they from, and who came to this area and so on... anything you might know...*

Vieva: Uh... well, I'll tell ya' the truth, I'm not sure, but Grandma was a... they were from North Dak... Carolina, I think... I think that's where they left... but you'll have to ask Ray...

Dean: *And that's the Lewallen side, right?*

Vieva: Yeah... I don't know... I think Grandpa was born in Michigan, and I'm not sure where she was born...

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Dean: *Do you know your Grandma's maiden name?*

Vieva: Yeah... Lowrance...

Dean: *She was a Lowrance...*

Vieva: Uh, huh (yes)... I'll show ya'... I'll show ya' her dad's picture... he brought 'em across the plains...

Dean: *So the Lowrances in Hebo...*

Vieva: Yeah...

Dean: *... and the many that were there, were all, then, her relatives... did they come at the same time she did?*

Vieva: Yeah... her sister and, uh... yeah, I think her sister and... see, Fred was four years old... get a load of this... she was pregnant with Belle... can you imagine that?

Dean: *Coming on the trail...*

Vieva: Huh?

Dean: *Coming on the...*

Vieva: Yeah!

Dean: *Did they come on covered wagon...*

Vieva: Yeah!

Dean: *Uh, huh (yes)...*

Vieva: And walked a lot... and him four... that was a problem... then they got across to Clickitat, Washington and Belle was born there...

Dean: *Hmm... do you have... did you ever hear any of the stories of when they were traveling on that trail... anything they used to talk about...*

Vieva: No... I asked Grandpa... you know, kids are not smart enough to ask a lot of questions like you would like to know now...

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Dean: *Yeah...*

Vieva: But then I asked him one time if he was... thought they was gonna' have trouble with the Indians, and he said they thought they were once, but that was all...

Dean: *Hmmm... okay, so that's your Grandma and Grandpa...*

Vieva: Yeah...

Dean: *And then, uh... what about your mom... what can you tell us about your mother?*

Vieva: Well... all I can tell ya' much is that she was born... she only weighed two and a half pounds when she was born...

Dean: *Hmmm...*

Vieva: (chuckle)... and she was born ... I think they lived... I'm not sure... too sure about this, but I think that they lived up Farmer Creek when she was born... Grandpa and Grandma...

Dean: *And so she was... what was her maiden name?*

Vieva: Oooh... I should know that...

Dean: *If it comes to you later, that's okay... don't worry about it...*

Vieva: Yeah... Okay... yeah... I should know, but I'll think of it probably about midnight...

Dean: *And your dad then, lived on Highway 22...*

Vieva: Yeah...

Dean: *Right... and his name was...*

Vieva: Claude... he didn't have a middle name...

Dean: *So Homer was your brother...*

Vieva: Yeah...

Dean: *Oooooh....*

Vieva: Yeah...

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Dean: *And your mom was Ivy...*

Vieva: Yeah... uh, huh (yes)...

Dean: *Okay...*

Vieva: Iva Kellow... uh, huh (yes)...

Dean: *Oh, Kellow???*

Vieva: Yeah...

Dean: *Who was... who were her parents?*

Vieva: Who was her what?

Dean: *Who were her parents, then?*

Vieva: Grandpa and Grandma Kellow... uh... George Kellow and Bertha...

Dean: *My, my, my...*

Vieva: Yeah...

Dean: *The connections I never knew existed...*

Vieva: (laughing)...

Dean: *So what... any idea what brought the Lewallen family to this area? Why did they come to south county?*

Vieva: I... I don't really know why... I don't know what they... what the idea was... I... you ask Ray, but I thought they had pretty good things back there, but I don't know...

Dean: *And what about the Kellows? Do you know anything about their history?*

Vieva: No... uh... Steve... Susie's and Forest's boy...

Dean: *Yeah...*

Vieva: ... is kinda' lookin' up the Kellows, I heard...

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Dean: *I heard that Doug, also, has a history... I was gonna' check on that...*

Vieva: Oh, yeah... oh, well... yeah, he might...

Dean: *Okay...*

Vieva: Yeah... uh, huh...

Dean: *You're related to a lot of people...*

Vieva: Oh, yeah... but then, hardly ever see 'em... any of 'em ... they're all spread around... once in a while we have a reunion, and the Kellows have one... they's not enough of the Lewallens left anymore...

Dean: *Hmmm... so, please, tell me if you can, the names of brothers or sisters and anything that you might share about them...*

Vieva: About the Kellows?

Dean: *About your brothers and sisters...*

Vieva: Oh... my brother... uh... well, what do you want to know?

Dean: *Anything interesting about him... any... something you remember about him...*

Vieva: Well... he worked on Mt. Hebo doing the... for a long time...

Dean: *You mean, for the... when the air force base was there?*

Vieva: Yeah...

Dean: *What did he do?*

Vieva: He maintained the road...

Dean: *Oh...*

Vieva: Uh...

Dean: *And he was... is your only sibling... your only brother, then?*

Vieva: Yeah...

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Dean: *No sisters...*

Vieva: No...

Dean: *Okay...*

Vieva: Just the two of us...

Dean: *Okay... tell about your earliest memories of living in south Tillamook county... anything you remember...*

Vieva: Like what?

Dean: *Anything... going to school...*

Vieva: Oh...

Dean: *... any family life... if there's anything that comes to mind...*

Vieva: Well, I had a great family life, but... uh... my folks were good... uh... I walked to school... grade school... I didn't walk to... I walked from school, which was no big deal then...

Dean: *And that was in Hebo?*

Vieva: Yeah, that school in Hebo...

Dean: *How'd you get to school if you didn't walk?*

Vieva: On the milk wagon...

Dean: *With your dad, or with somebody else?*

Vieva: With Hap... uh... Hap Lane... he was married to my Aunt Maude...

Dean: *Maude... Kellow, or Maude Lewallen...*

Vieva: Maude Lewallen... uh, huh (yes)...

Dean: *Lewallen... hmmm... did other kids also ride on the wagon, or was it just you?*

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Vieva: Just us for a long time, because we was the only kids up there 'til they built the fish hatchery and then the first guy that was there, he had three... two girls and a boy, and we got...

Dean: *Do you remember his name by any chance?*

Vieva: Yeah... his name was Fisher...

Dean: *Okay... so was the Lane place the next place up from you on 22?*

Vieva: No.... it was, uh... you know, up there... the Lane... you mean Maude and Hap...

Dean: *Yeah...*

Vieva: Oh... yeah... they was the next one up from us... uh, huh...

Dean: *Okay...*

Vieva: And Grandma and Grandpa was across the road.

Dean: *Grandpa and Grandma Lewallen?*

Vieva: Yeah...

Dean: *Across... so the farm... I don't remember the lady we used to call the goat lady... do you remember her?*

Vieva: Oh, the goat lady... yeah... that's where my grandparents lived...

Dean: *Ooooh... before she did there...*

Vieva: Yeah... yeah... yeah...

Dean: *Hmmmm... so...*

Vieva: Yeah... and then they had a... there's a big barn across the road and they used to give dances... when they didn't have dances in the house... I mean like, early... really early... why, people that come to the Hebo or some other place, they'd stop and they'd have a dance in the livin' room...

Dean: *Did other people do that, too, or just mainly your parents... at your grandparent's place?*

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Vieva: Well, there was some down to Oretown, but I don't 'member, 'cause they used to go down there, but I guess it took 'em pretty near all day to get down there and back with the wagon...

Dean: *So when they had the dances in the barn, do you mean upstairs in the hay mows?*

Vieva: Uh, huh (yes)...

Dean: *How did people get up there?*

Vieva: Oh, they was a steps up there...

Dean: *Oh...*

Vieva: I can remember that... I used to dance up there when I was about...

Dean: *So what do you remember about those dancing time?*

Vieva: Oh, they were good... a lot of fun... but, uh... they had to quit when the Indians started coming over there and drinkin', so they quit.

Dean: *Indians from where?*

Vieva: Grand Ronde...

Dean: *Oooh...*

Vieva: Uh, huh (yes)...

Dean: *So was it open to anybody to come, or just people they invited?*

Vieva: Yeah... no, I think it was open to anybody... I don't know... I s'pose it's just people around there, I don't know...

Dean: *Uh, huh (yes)...*

Vieva: I was too young to...

Dean: *So... what would a dance look like... I mean...*

Vieva: Square dances...

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Dean: *Oh, square dances...*

Vieva: Yeah... uh, huh...

Dean: *And was it all families, or just men and women...*

Vieva: I think it was just all families...

Dean: *So kids too...*

Vieva: Yeah, 'cause I got to dance...

Dean: *And... how late did they go...*

Vieva: How what?

Dean: *Did they go late into the night, or... or how long did they dance... do you remember that part?*

Vieva: No, I don't 'member that... but I s'pose it was... I don't know...

Dean: *I read some accounts that in the early times dances would go all night...*

Vieva: Yeah...

Dean: *... because it was too dangerous driving at night, and then they would leave in the morning, but I don't know if that's the...*

Vieva: Oh... I don't think they did that...

Dean: *So... Indians started coming, and then what was the problem then?*

Vieva: Drinkin'...

Dean: *And maybe fights or something, or...*

Vieva: Well, I don't know... I guess they quit before it did get that way... I can't remember...

Dean: *Uh, huh (yes)...*

Vieva: Uh, huh (yes)...

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Dean: *So, tell us about any chores you had growing up.*

Vieva: Not too many...

Dean: *Really...*

Vieva: Well, I used to do the ironin', 'cause Mom didn't like to iron, and I didn't like to cook, so she did the cookin' and I did the ironin'...

Dean: *And were most of your clothes ironed at that time, or...*

Vieva: Yeah...

Dean: *Really...*

Vieva: ... shirts and stuff for Homer and my dad...

Dean: *And then family life at home... did you have any special things that you did in the evenings, or... what was that like?*

Vieva: Well, gosh I don't know... it was pretty good. I had a real good family life.

Dean: *Uh, huh (yes)... did you play any games at home, or anybody read stories, or anything that you can remember?*

Vieva: Well, I suppose my dad did, 'cause he read good... I imagine he did, but I can't remember that.

Dean: *Yeah, I understand... it's been a long time...*

Vieva: Yeah...

Dean: *And... do you remember your family traveling any long distances during that time that you lived there?*

Vieva: No... they didn't travel much, 'cause they had to work on the farm and stuff... I 'member 'em goin' to Portland once...

Dean: *How did they travel to Portland?*

Vieva: They had a little... we had a little kind of a Chevy...

Dean: *And the road you took would be...*

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Vieva: Out ?? Road...

Dean: 22...

Vieva: Yeah...

Dean: *What about neighbors, Vieva, can you name some of the neighbors that lived around your farm where you lived?*

Vieva: Well, most of 'em was family... we lived there, and Fred lived across the road...

Dean: *And that's Fred Lewallen...*

Vieva: Yeah... and, uh... Grandma lived up here, and Maude lived up... well, first Maude lived across... Maude and Hap lived across the river... and they had a foot bridge and they lived over there... but we used to be able to go over there and swim, 'cause they'd watch out for us...

Dean: *Did they live right on the river, or...*

Vieva: Uh, huh (yes)...

Dean: *Oh...*

Vieva: Uh, huh... uh, huh... uh, huh (yes, yes, yes)... not too far, about as far as from here to the road...

Dean: *What about between Hebo and your place... were there many people in there?*

Vieva: Crosses...

Dean: *Was that the big old house that sat on the right side of the road by an orchard for so long... past where the covered bridge used to be... or...*

Vieva: Yeah, that was Crosses...

Dean: *Oh, it was...*

Vieva: Yeah... they built that... didn't they build that garage... 'er, that...

Dean: *That bridge...*

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Vieva: Bridge... covered bridge...

Dean: *I think dad said they did...*

Vieva: Uh, huh (yes)...

Dean: *It was never the main highway, was it? It was just a road for them...*

Vieva: I don't know what they built that for...

Dean: *Oh...*

Vieva: They... just to go over there, I guess... picnic, or somethin'... I don't know what they did it for...

Dean: *So... you remembered about dances... were there other events that happened in the community that you remember?*

Vieva: Well, they played... the folks played cards later...

Dean: *What kinda' cards?*

Vieva: Five hundred... they played five hundred, and they played with ever'body up and down the river... but that was later...

Dean: *Hmmm...*

Vieva: They was busy working...

Dean: *Yeah... what about holiday celebrations... what would your holidays be like at your home?*

Vieva: Oh, well, we always went to the Sandlake for Fourth of July and had a picnic, and the men waded and stabbed flounders... we did that every of Fourth of July... and then they all had a... got together for Christmas, at our place, mostly...

Dean: *So how did you get to Sandlake... was that... originally, do you remember going by wagon at all?*

Vieva: No, that was later.

Dean: *Okay...*

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Vieva: ... when we had the car...

Dean: *Okay... did all the community do that around... south county...*

Vieva: No... no, just... not that I remember...

Dean: *Okay... and.... community gatherings... you've already mentioned about dances and cards...*

Vieva: Yeah... the card playin'...

Dean: *Do you remember any tragedies as you were growing up... anyone being killed, or accidents or anything?*

Vieva: Uh... no, I s'pose there was, but I don't remember it...

Dean: *Okay... then let's just talk a little bit about your school... what teachers do you remember being at Hebo School?*

Vieva: Well... I can't remember it now... I can't remember my first grade teacher... I can see her, but... she married Hugh Arstil...

Dean: *Okay...*

Vieva: Do you remember that? I mean, do you...

Dean: *S T E L L ? Is that how...*

Vieva: *A R S T I L ...*

Dean: *Oh... oh, Arstil, okay... no, but I can maybe find out...*

Vieva: Yeah, he was... they was... she taught the lower grades and he taught the upper ones... and then they was a woman that... I can't remember her name, either... she was a relation to a... ooooh.... I can see 'em, but I can't think of their names... uh... but she lived over at the hotel, and when, uh... whoever... well, it was, uh... well, shoot! I can't.... it was some relation to Russ Turner...

Dean: *So when you say "the" hotel... was there only one hotel at that time, or were there more than one?*

Vieva: Yeah, they was only one.

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Dean: *Is that the Traveler's Hotel?*

Vieva: That's the one there that now is for sale...

Dean: *Oh, what's... where Brown's Restaurant used to be?*

Vieva: Yeah... uh, huh (yes)...

Dean: *Oooh... was that the name... Traveler's, or was that a different one?*

Vieva: Turner's Tavern, wasn't it?

Dean: *Huh... don't remember... okay, so in school... that was your first teacher, do you remember any other teachers you might have had? And anything you remember about any of those teachers... I know it's a long time ago...*

Vieva: Yeah... that's a long time ago... I think... I think I only had her... no, I had Goldie Wilson, too.

Dean: *Oooh...*

Vieva: She was a sister of Elsie Kreutz's.

Dean: *Vi... was Vi a sister, too, or Mable Wilson? Was she from Oretown?*

Vieva: Yeah... well, Cloverdale...

Dean: *Cloverdale...*

Vieva: Uh, huh (yes)...

Dean: *Anything you remember about them?*

Vieva: No, not much... I remember 'em later, because Mom was real good friends with Elsie...

Dean: *Hmmm.... what did your classrooms look like, if you can...*

Vieva: I don't think we had one.

Dean: *So... but you had a room, right, that you were in?*

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Vieva: Yeah, yeah... there's one... well, the school's different than what it is...

Dean: *Now, yeah...*

Vieva: Yeah... there was the lower grades was like this, and then the other... uh, the upper grades was...

Dean: *So the lower grades were on the right and the upper grades on the left?*

Vieva: Yeah somethin' like that... yeah, or on this side, just back...

Dean: *Uh, huh (yes)...*

Vieva: I guess... I can't... that's a long time...

Dean: *Heated with a wood stove?*

Vieva: I think so... I don't know...

Dean: *What about discipline... do you ever remember any kids being disciplined? You were probably perfect.*

Vieva: Oh, yeah! (laughing)... No, I wasn't perfect, but I was too scared to... timid to act naughty... I'd do that when I got home...

Dean: *(laughing with Vieva)... and, do you remember any of the games you used to play as kids?*

Vieva: Well... Black Man, for one thing...

Dean: *Can you describe that? What was that like?*

Vieva: Well, let's see... well, I... you'd run through... and they'd try to catch ya'...

Dean: *So was it... the person who was trying to catch ya'... were they called the Black Man, and the...*

Vieva: I guess... I don't remember...

Dean: *Uh, huh (yes)...*

Vieva: They'd be a whole lot of... I think they'd be a line of 'em tryin' to catch a line that was goin' through... I.... that's too long ago for me...

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Dean: *I had somebody else mention that game, too... I just wondered... any other games you might remember...*

Vieva: No...

Dean: *And did they have any...*

Vieva: They done a lot of running...

Dean: *Yeah... what... were there trees around the school at that point, or was it all cleared off?*

Vieva: It was all cleared off, I think... uh, huh (yes)...

Dean: *Was there a playground with anything on it?*

Vieva: No... just in front of the school... they didn't have a...

Dean: *Swings, or anything?*

Vieva: Oh, yeah, they had some swings, I think... oh, no, I'm not sure they did.

Dean: *Okay. Were there any extra curricular activities, like clubs or sports or anything like that?*

Vieva: I don't think so... not when I was young.

Dean: *And you told how you got to school...*

Vieva: Yeah, I rode on the horse... uh... goin' to the factory... takin' milk to the factory... I walked home...

Dean: *With your brother...*

Vieva: Yeah... well, when we got... yeah, I guess so... that's a long time ago...

Dean: *Who... who was older? Was Homer older than you, or...*

Vieva: No, I was older than him... two and a half years...

Dean: *Oh... okay... any other stories about your school years you might share?*

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Vieva: Can't remember any...

Dean: *What were some important lessons that you think you learned from your dad?*

Vieva: My dad... oh, to be honest and... I don't know...

Dean: *What about from your mom?*

Vieva: Well... she just taught us to be good, or we got a lickin'...

Dean: *Was the lickin' from her or your dad?*

Vieva: Her, I think, mostly. I can remember goin' out there and sittin' on the chicken house roof so she couldn't get us!

Dean: *That's great!! (laughing with Vieva)... What do you remember most about your dad?*

Vieva: Oh, I just thought he was just all there was.

Dean: *Hmmm...*

Vieva: He was just great.

Dean: *And what do you remember most about your mom?*

Vieva: Well, the same thing. She was a heck of a good cook. Well, yeah, she was great, too.

Dean: *Now, you had your mom a lot longer than your dad, didn't you?*

Vieva: Yeah.... uh, huh...

Dean: *So...*

Vieva: Yeah, I took care of her...

Dean: *He died how many years before Ivy did?*

Vieva: I think about twenty.

Dean: *Hmmm...*

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Vieva: 'Cause Ray and I was lookin' that up on the tombstones... I think he died in 1954, and she died in '74...

Dean: *Oh... why do you think it was good to grow up and live in south Tillamook county... for the years that you lived there?*

Vieva: Well, I don't know... I think they was good, 'cause they didn't... wasn't any trouble... like there probably is now... oh, it was just a nice place...

Dean: *Did you feel like it was a pretty good community group, friends and that...*

Vieva: Yeah.... uh, huh...uh, huh (yes, yes)...

Dean: *Can you think of anything that was kind of difficult about growing up in south Tillamook county?*

Vieva: Nope...

Dean: *And...*

Vieva: No... I ... 'course you didn't have a lot of busses runnin' every place when you went to high school...

Dean: *Yeah... uh... tell about any other people you can think of who lived in south Tillamook county who were important to you and your family...*

Vieva: Well... I can't think of anybody much, but... uh... 'cause we had all our family... you know, all the family lived up there, so I guess we was pretty knit... I don't know... oh, the people there at the fish hatchery, and... oh, the folks, they had card parties and they played with Nyschwanders and...

Dean: *Hmmm...*

Vieva: ...and, uh... oh, I can't remember all of 'em...

Dean: *Did Homer have children?*

Vieva: Yeah, he had a... he's got one... one boy... Jerry... he lives down in Texas...

Dean: *Oooh...*

Vieva: Uh, huh (yes)...

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Dean: *So, now, tell us about your spouse... tell us about John...*

Vieva: Oh... well, he was a great guy...

Dean: *How did you meet him?*

Vieva: Dancin'... (chuckling)...

Dean: *Now, he grew up in Woods, right?*

Vieva: Yeah... uh, huh...

Dean: *Did he come to your grandparents dance, or somewhere else that you met him?*

Vieva: No... he... we used to, uh... go to... you know, they had dances at Pacific City and Beaver, and...

Dean: *So at Pacific City, it was held by the bridge where that building was... is that...*

Vieva: No, that one right on the corner where that real estate is now, isn't it? They was a big... great big building there...

Dean: *Hmmm...*

Vieva: I don't know what was under it, but the dance hall was on... up on top,

Dean: *Oooh...*

Vieva: ...then they done away it, and then the dance hall was across the bridge...

Dean: *Okay... what about in Beaver, where did you dance?*

Vieva: Well, right there where the service station is, there used to be a... I don't know what was underneath...

Dean: *Was it Gilbert's store?*

Vieva: Might have been...

Dean: *There had that there for a while...*

Vieva: Did they? Yeah, and they had a dance floor upstairs...

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Dean: *Ooh...*

Vieva: Uh, huh (yes)...

Dean: *What about at the Green Parrot Tavern... was that also used for dances upstairs?*

Vieva: Where's that at?

Dean: *It was right next to the corner where Ekborgs used to live... uh.... it's not there anymore, but I know... I've heard that the upstairs was used for dances some...*

Vieva: Well, maybe that...

Dean: *That could be, then...*

Vieva: Yeah...

Dean: *So both you and John liked dancing...*

Vieva: Oh, yeah... yeah... uh, huh...

Dean: *Anything else about John?*

Vieva: Well, he went to the service for... we was married for two years, and then he went to the service for four...

Dean: *Where was he in the service?*

Vieva: New Guinea... he built... well, things that... the guns and stuff, he... crated... that's the word... crated stuff to go to the front in New Guinea...

Dean: *Was he there the... in the... most of the war, he was in New Guinea?*

Vieva: Uh, huh... uh, huh... (yes, yes)...

Dean: *And he...*

Vieva: Well, yeah, he uh... well, he went from Fort Lewis... he went with Colorado, and then he went to Texas and then he went to San Francisco and then he went overseas...

Dean: *What did you do all that time when he was gone?*

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Conducted by Dean Bones

April 4, 2004

Vieva: Well, I worked in the post office. Or, well, sometimes, I... a little while I worked... well, we lived in Tillamook when he went...

Dean: *Oooh...*

Vieva: And, uh... I didn't do too much... I did work at a hospital for a while...

Dean: *What did you do for your job...*

Vieva: Washing... washing clothes...

Dean: *Oooh... uh, huh (yes)...*

Vieva: ... and uh... then after he left, I moved back down with the folks and I went to work in that Bruce's Store...

Dean: *Yeah...*

Vieva: I worked there for a while...

Dean: *What did you do there?*

Vieva: There? Just waited on people, and, uh... well, I took the car and... they had a store down at Cloverdale, and I took groceries down there and sometimes I'd run it...

Dean: *Hmm...*

Vieva: But I didn't... then I went to work at the post office...

Dean: *How many years did you work at the post office?*

Vieva: All my life... just about... let's see... yeah, just about...

Dean: *And who was the postmaster before you?*

Vieva: Before... well, Frank Cross was when I went there...

Dean: *And then after you?*

Vieva: Oh, after me...

Dean: *Well, no... you.. .I asked before, because... was it Margaret Duvall after you? Who took over when you quit?*

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Vieva: See... well, Margaret... let's see, how did that... well, Margaret went... was the postmaster after... after Frank Cross, I guess... and then, after she retired, I was...

Dean: *Ooooh, I see... oooh...*

Vieva: After me was Delores Hill...

Dean: *Ooooh.... okay... uh... I always regret that I did not get... do an interview with John's sister, Hildred...*

Vieva: Oh, yeah... uh, huh (yes)...

Dean: *Anything you might share about Hildred that would be interesting?*

Vieva: No, I... what would you want to know?

Dean: *Well, my dad has talked about Hildred's first husband, Meyer...*

Vieva: Oh, Ozzie Meyers...

Dean: *Ozzie...*

Vieva: Oh, yeah, he was a peach... he was just great...

Dean: *And, Dad...*

Vieva: Well, Dick... I liked Dick, too, but I especially liked Oz...

Dean: *And they lived in Washington and then moved back, didn't they?*

Vieva: Yeah...

Dean: *And then what happened?*

Vieva: Then he went to the service...

Dean: *And.... he was...*

Vieva: See, if he... I don't know this to be a fact, but I figured that if he stayed up there and worked in the mill, like his brother, Ralph, he might not have had to go... but I don't know that, and I shouldn't say it...

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Dean: *My dad said the same thing...*

Vieva: Did he?

Dean: *Uh, huh (yes)...*

Vieva: Uh, huh (yes)... but I think Hildred got homesick...

Dean: *Oh...*

Vieva: And then they lived in Beaver... I can't think of what... there by Aronson's Garage... them little cabins... and then they went to... after Oz... and then they had the baby, Arlin... and then after he went to the service, why then she moved in with her folks...

Dean: *And... oh, with her folks... in Woods, then...*

Vieva: Yeah...

Dean: *Okay... and his folks lived in Beaver, right... Ozzie's parents...*

Vieva: They did, at one time... well, I can't 'member... no... his folks lived out in the valley someplace... Erma and Allen Gilbert lived in that... uh... that house... well, they used to be a house just this side of the bridge back in there that Allen and Edith... Erma... was it Erma or Edith? Well, Erma... they lived there...

Dean: *Okay...*

Vieva: Then, uh... see, then... I don't know... Edith Creecy was one of 'em, too...

Dean: *Right... yep, I've heard that, too... so you've mentioned the jobs you had... what jobs did John have through his life that you know?*

Vieva: Well, when he went to the service he worked for the blimp base...

Dean: *Doing what?*

Vieva: Darned if I can't remember now... just workin' on that building, I guess...

Dean: *Hangers, then...*

Vieva: Yeah... most of the time he just worked for himself... carpentering...

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Dean: *Oh, yeah... are there homes... did he build homes, then?*

Vieva: Oh, yeah...

Dean: *Can you think of some homes he built for people?*

Vieva: Oh, yeah... he built that house where Dennis and Joanne Love live...

Dean: *Oh, the farm...*

Vieva: Yeah... he built that... 'cause for Milt and Kathleen Johansen he built that yellow one up there on the hill where we lived, and he built the one up Three Rivers where we lived, and he built one for Shorty Brassfield there, up from his place... let's see... oh, he built so darn many, I can't remember 'em all...

Dean: *I didn't know you lived on Three Rivers...*

Vieva: Yeah... you know, that house right up there next to the fish hatchery, that sits back in there... with the big windows...

Dean: *No, but I'm gonna' go look someday...*

Vieva: (laughing)... it's the next one past the fish... the Cedar Creek Bridge...

Dean: *Okay... he was a carpenter most of his life, then...*

Vieva: Yeah... uh, huh (yes)...

Dean: *And... tell us about the family you raised.*

Vieva: What family?

Dean: *Ray.*

Vieva: Oh, Ray. Oh, yeah... he's somethin' else, that kid.

Dean: *Why is he somethin' else?*

Vieva: 'Cause he's so good to me, and he was so good to us, and he's smart and... he's just really good.

Dean: *He was sure known for his singing wasn't he?*

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Vieva: Yes, he was, and now he won't sing a lick.

Dean: *I'll have to do somethin' about that.*

Vieva: Yeah, and he won't play the piano or anything else. And he's got a baby grand down home... Palm Springs...

Dean: *Uh... any other important events in your life that maybe we haven't mentioned or talked about that you'd want to share?*

Vieva: Uh... no...

Dean: *What lessons do you hope that Ray might have learned from you?*

Vieva: I don't know... he's learned a... he's an awful good kid... he was a good teacher... have you retired?

Dean: *Yes, m'am... I sub...*

Vieva: (laughing)... where did you teach?

Dean: *I taught six years out at Banks, I taught thirteen years in Tillamook and thirteen years at Beaver for the... in the middle school most recently...*

Vieva: Oh, for heaven's sake...

Dean: *So that was thirty-two... and I'm still alive...*

Vieva: Yeah (laugh)...

Dean: *What about any experiences in any local clubs or local organizations or local churches or anything like that?*

Vieva: Well... I can't remember any...

Dean: *And... any stories that maybe were told and retold at family gatherings... are there any stories you could share? Or that Ray might tell about you?*

Vieva: Yeah, he might tell ya' 'bout some... I know he could tell ya' 'bout earlier... my grandparents' early life...

Dean: *Okay... I'm gonna' contact that guy...*

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Vieva: Yeah...

Dean: *Okay, so what I'm gonna' do, Vieva, is... this tape will go to Darleen Cole, who's a sweetie, and she's gonna' type up everything you said, and then we'll give you a copy...*

Vieva: Okay...

Dean: *You can read, Ray can read it...*

Vieva: I can't read it, 'cause I can't see..

Dean: *Okay, he can read it then to you... and if there's anything in there where that you think, "You know what? I don't think I don't want people to know that." You can cross it out.*

Vieva: Yeah.

Dean: *And if you want to add something we can add it, and then once we've done that, I'm gonna' give you a sheet for permission that we can share your story with other people.*

Vieva: Oh, okay...

Dean: *Okay?*

Vieva: Yeah.

Dean: *And if you think of anything else... I mean, Ray is welcome to tape you, too... we just want to try to preserve the history of people as much as we can...*

Vieva: Yeah, I know... yeah, that's great, I think... that's great of ya'... yeah, well he can tell ya' a whole lot more, 'cause he's...

Dean: *Actually, I have another question... so, is he available, maybe, during the week to drive you somewhere?*

Vieva: He comes up here to see me and take me... every other day...

Dean: *The reason I wondered... because on May 20th and 21st, we're having some people come to the middle school, and there will be a teacher and about five or six kids is all... not very many... and they're gonna' read off names of people that are buried in*

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the cemetery at Hebo, and we'd like to learn any information about them, if you remember anything at all...

Vieva: Ooh...

Dean: *Is it possible that you might be willing to come...*

Vieva: No, I can't come, because he's gonna' go... the 12th he's goin' down to Palm Springs, and then he's going to Tennessee...

Dean: *So, if I brought the list up here, could I... could I read them to you and do it up here at your place?*

Vieva: Yeah... yeah, yeah, yeah...

Dean: *I'll even call ahead this time...*

Vieva: Yeah, okay...

Dean: *(laughing with Vieva)... because, you know, when we go into cemeteries and we see a person's name... for example, let's say, Ozzie Meyers... we see his name and when he was born and when he died, and that's all we know...*

Vieva: Yeah, well, he's buried down San Francisco...

Dean: *Aaah...*

Vieva: I don't know why she never had him brought up... but she could have had him brought up and buried, you know, at the national cemetery out Portland... at Willamette...

Dean: *What about John's parents? Where are they buried?*

Vieva: They're buried up here in Tillamook...

Dean: *Oh, they are...*

Vieva: And Hildred and Dick are, too, and Butch... Arlin...

Dean: *Who's Arlin?*

Vieva: Arlin is Hildred's boy...

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Dean: *Oh... yeah, okay...*

Vieva: He died when he was sixteen with leukemia...

Dean: *And your parents are at Hebo, aren't they?*

Vieva: Yeah... all my relation is at Hebo.

Dean: *So, see you would be rich with history if I bring that list and read that off to you...*

Vieva: Yeah...

Dean: *You could tell me some of those people...*

Vieva: Yeah...

Dean: *Okay... it's a deal... I'm gonna' shut this off, unless you...*

Vieva: Good...

Dean: *Don't you tell me any good stories if I shut this off, now... (Dean and Vieva both laughing)...*

(end of tape)

Transcribed by
Darleen Cole
June 17, 2004