

August 2006

Interview with Louise Wiseman Stuart

By Isabelle Chewning

Chewning: Today is August 23, 2006, I am Isabelle Chewning doing an interview of Louise Stuart for the Brownsburg Oral History Project, and we're in Lou's nice den, and I'm going to ask you a few background questions to get started.

Stuart: Okay.

Chewning: I hope you have some good stories for me.

Stuart: Oh, my goodness sakes, I have all the stories in the world!

Chewning: Great! So tell me about when you lived in Brownsburg. Were you born there?

Stuart: No, no, no. No, I was born in Fairfield. I was born in the house at Layman's Apple Orchard. I don't know why we were there or anything, but that's where we were. In the upstairs, and the house is still there. I was born on the 5th of April, and Mother said it snowed that night, really snowed, and Dr. Jeffries was the doctor there in Fairfield, and he came – doctors made house calls then – he came up, brought his peck of apples, she said, and stayed there all night and ate his apples, and I was finally born. So yes, that's where I was born.

Chewning: And then when did you live in Brownsburg?

Stuart: Well. You know, we, for some reason, I don't know, but we lived in the house that is now the museum [2716 Brownsburg Turnpike]. We lived in that house when I was very young. Probably two or three years old.

Chewning: Oh, you lived in that house? Next to Mrs. Whipple's house?

Stuart: Yes. Yes, and it belonged to the Whipples then, and that's where I have my story about the "necessary house". But we'll get to that later.

Chewning: So you were really small when you lived there?

Stuart: Really small. One, or two maybe. See, we always had relatives who lived around Brownsburg. All of Mother's family, and there were eight – there were nine in her family.

Chewning: What was her maiden name?

Stuart: Her name was Reese. R – E – E – S – E.

Chewning: And your father's name was Wiseman.

Stuart: Yes, my father's name was Wiseman. And Dad was from Fairfield. He was from the other side of the hill. His family place was just down from where Rockbridge School is now. On the other side of the road. And there were nine in his family.

Chewning: Where the Hockmans live now?

Stuart: Well the Hockmans live up on top of the hill, and Grandmother and Granddaddy lived further on down.

Chewning: Where Chris Blalock lives?

Stuart: The house that they lived in burned. I think there's a small house or trailer there [1495 Sterrett Road]. Do you know where Uncle Johnnie Wiseman lived?

Chewning: No.

Stuart: Well anyway, you go on down around the turn from the Hockmans, and then those new houses along there. Okay, then Grandmother and Granddaddy's house was right down there. And they had an orchard – apple orchard – that I think they sold apples and stuff and they also had some cows that they must have butchered or something. Anyway, Granddaddy, what he did was go around and sell this meat. And of course, they had nine kids, different ages, but how they ever managed, I don't know, but they did. And that's what he did, and of course, Grandmother never worked. And the Reeses, Mother's family, were all from Pisgah. They were all – as a matter of fact, Grandma (Grandma Reese was a Gordon) and the farm that her parents lived on was the farm that Willard Scott bought. And the house burned while they lived there. And there was never a house put back on it until Willard Scott built his nice little house up there [742 High Rock Road]. And that was the Gordon house. And she said that her father (who would be my great-grandfather) went off to the Civil War, and never came back. And they don't know –

Chewning: And they didn't know –

Stuart: Oh, no, they didn't know what happened and nobody cared, he just never came back. But anyway, Pop (Granddaddy Reese) his family lived on the farm pretty close to theirs. And I remember Pop's mother, Granny Reese, I remember her and one of his sisters who still lived in the farmhouse up there in Pisgah.

Chewning: Well, are you related to Weasel [Reese] and Janet [Reese] Moneymaker?

Stuart: Yes! Yes, indeed. Janet's grandfather, George Reese, and my grandfather were brothers.

Chewning: Gee, all these connections I never knew!

Stuart: Yeah. Yeah. And Carl [Reese] was Mother's first cousin, see. Yeah. But the strange thing is, Grandma Reese – who was a Gordon – do you remember Carl's mother and father?

Chewning: Yeah, uh huh.

Stuart: Okay, now Carl's mother had been married to my grandmother's brother. She was a Gordon. And Flossie was a Gordon. That was her parents. Okay. Then, he died – that guy died – and then Mary married Carl's father. Then they had Carl. You understand all that?

Chewning: This is great. So how long did you live in the little house that is going to be the museum?

Stuart: You know, I don't know. I don't know. It just must have been – I just barely remember the fire. Some reason, I remember that! [Laugh] Some reason I remember that, and I don't know whether you want me to tell you that story now.

Chewning: Oh, I'd love it, yeah.

Stuart: Okay. Well anyway, while we were living there (and Ag teases me all the time about this) anyway. While we were living there, my brother Carl must have been – I don't know, five maybe. I must have been three or two. Anyway, along in there. If my sister Frances was born, they took her with them to Staunton, and they had Mother's sister, Helen, to come in and take care of Carl and me. Well, they didn't think it would be any problem. But, Carl got himself all situated, and he decided that he had this job to do while Mother and Dad were gone. So he took me by the hand, and locked the doors to the house so Helen couldn't get out, and then he took his – I think it was kerosene – he said kerosene, I don't know. It was kerosene and matches and me, and went down in the back yard, and set that “necessary house” afire! [Laugh] And Ed Patterson told me a

couple of years before he died, that he remembered – he said he was coming up – he was quite a bit older than we were – and he was coming up through Brownsburg to buy something for their farm, you know. And he got up there closer, and he saw all this fire down in the back yard, and across the street in front of the – I guess it was the Woody’s store, then, remember over there where what’s his name –

Chewning: Where Dick Barnes lives?

Stuart: Barnes. Yes, where he lives there was a store there, and it had the built-up street. And then down to the road. Well, we were sitting on the edge of that, and Ed said we just looked so pompous and sitting there just swinging our feet like we had really done a job!
[Laugh]

Chewning: [Laugh] And poor Helen, huh?

Stuart: And that’s right, poor Helen! Anyway, when Dad got back, he realized that he couldn’t say anything, because he remembered at the dinner table one night he had said he wished somebody would burn that “necessary house” down so Mrs. Whipple would build us a new one! [Laugh] So Carl felt an obligation to take care of it.

Chewning: [Laugh] That’s a great story! That’s funny.

Stuart: It really is. And you know that the one thing when Carl died – Randy Harrison was going to conduct the funeral in Staunton, and he said, “You know what, I didn’t know your brother very well. If you have some stories you’d like to tell, just sketch them down for me.” And I did, and that was one of the ones that I told. And then at the funeral Randy said, “I hope you all will excuse me, but Lou has written this down, and it’s just so beautifully done I’m going to read it right out!” And he did. So anyway, Ag and Ed were there, and that’s why she teases me about it.

Chewning: That’s a good story.

Stuart: And it was the johnny house to the house that you all are going to have for the museum.

Chewning: I think I had read somewhere that that house was – it was a bank, maybe at one time, and it was the phone office?

Stuart: I don't know all that. Must have been before my time.

Chewning: So then did you move up the street after you lived there?

Stuart: No. No, no, no, no. No. We left there and then we went over – do you know where Davis Station is?

Chewning: No.

Stuart: No. Okay. Well, you know where Bud – Bud Martin and his wife live [146 McClure Boulevard].

Chewning: Uh huh.

Stuart. Okay. You go on across there, and the first road you get to, you turn left. Okay. And there's a farm up there, and it belonged to Dad's great-uncle. Yeah. Dad's great-uncle. Uncle Buzz Arehart. That's who it belonged to. Of course, he had gotten old, and he needed somebody to run his farm. So we moved up there. And that's the first place that I really have memories of. And all the time we went to New Providence Church. Ah, but, ah, we loved it up there. Uncle Buzz had married this much younger woman. And my sister and I were just the apples of her eye.

Chewning: Did she spoil you?

Stuart: Spoiled us rotten! And Mother was busy, you know, doing all this stuff and we'd be down at Aunt Bessie's. We knew darn well she'd take care of us and give us something to eat and watch what we wanted to do. [Laugh] All that stuff!! And we had a marvelous time. And after we came back to Brownsburg, we, my sister and I used to go over there and spend the weekends and everything – just like it was

Chewning: A second home.

Stuart: A second home – no question! I mean, we had this great big barn that we played in. And jumped off the hay down into the – whatever it was down there. And then Dad had these great old big horses.

Chewning: So he was farming then.

Stuart: He was farming. Oh yes, yes. He was farming. But I don't know what the arrangement was. As far as I was concerned, it all belonged to us, but it didn't! [Laugh] It didn't belong to us. We had our own garden, you know. But other than that, I don't know what the arrangements were.

Chewning: And how old were you then?

Stuart: Well, we must have come back to – I couldn't have been more than two when we went over there. And we must have come back – moved back to Brownsburg then I would guess about in 1934. I must have been in the second grade or something like that. And anyway, the strange thing about that [laugh] was we had to walk from where we lived –

Chewning: Where did you live?

Stuart: Well we lived on this farm, you see. Of Uncle Buzz's. From where you turn left there after you go on down from Bud's it must have been a half a mile. Up in there.

Where his – my Uncle Buzz’s farm. And he owned all the land on both sides of the hill. And it was a big farm. Or it seemed big to me. We used to pick berries and all that stuff, you know. And anyway, we had to walk up to Davis Station to catch the bus. And Carl, of course, was two years older than I was, but I thought I was as big as he was. And so he went to school the first year, and I didn’t get to go, and I really was angry, and I couldn’t imagine why I couldn’t go. I was so put out! I didn’t want to stay at home with my sister who was a little old thing! [Laugh] So anyway, and for some reason, I think they let me go. I don’t know –

Chewing: [Laugh]

Stuart: Yeah. Of course, things were different back then. But I think the rule was if you were six before the end of the academic year you could go. So I went! I was so tickled I could hardly stand it! I wanted to go to school. I mean get myself dressed –

Chewing: So did you go to school in Fairfield?

Stuart: No, no. The bus to Brownsburg. And we walked up the railroad track, and went to Davis Station. And there was a Mrs. Houser up there who, when it was cold, would always take us in and warm us and feed us cookies. And – it was strange. After Boyd died – I’m sure you know this story – I dated Randall **Error! Bookmark not defined.** Wade.

Chewing: Right.

Stuart: Okay. When I was in the first and second grade, Randall was driving the bus! [Laugh] He was my bus driver! [Laugh] He said he didn’t remember me. But anyway, he was my bus driver. Anyway, ah, then we – I don’t know any reason for anything. We just all did what they told us to do. And so Dad decided – Hugh McNutt was driving the school bus. And at that time the school bus drivers owned their own school busses and all that. And anyway, Hugh, I think was going down to Norfolk, or down in there

somewhere. And that's where he and Isabel lived when they got divorced. Anyway, so Dad bought the bus from Hugh. And so then he couldn't do farming, so that's when we moved to Brownsburg. It must have been about '33 or '34. I don't remember how old I was, but I loved Brownsburg. I mean, I hated – I couldn't imagine not living over there on the farm, you know, I just couldn't imagine it. But we all loved Brownsburg. And you know, I can't remember, we lived a lot of places. The first place was up on the upper end of Brownsburg. And I think that the house must have been torn down because I don't see anything where we could live – or fell down, or something, I don't know. But anyway, we lived there when we first moved over there. And then, you know the house that Mother and Dad owned at one time?

Chewing: Uh huh. That's the house were the Lunsfords live now, right [2651 Brownsburg Turnpike]?

Stuart: Exactly, that's the place, uh huh. So that was owned by Dad's great aunt. And she was – Aunt – oh, my gosh, what was her name? Potter was her last name. Anyway, it'll come to me. Aunt Sis. For heavens sakes – imagine calling somebody Aunt Sis. [Laugh] If you're not southern you can't do that! [Laugh] I don't know what her name was. But anyway, she was Aunt Sis. She was Dad's great aunt. She needed somebody to live in that house with her. And remember there was a little shop – you don't remember this. But now the shop is in the back of that house. But the shop then was down in the front. And her husband had been a shoemaker. And that's where he did his shoe work. And he died. So she decided she was going to use that for her kitchen, and then you walked across the porch to her bedroom. And we had the rest of the house. So see, that's just what people did. I mean, they just took care of each other. So that's where we stayed until Mrs. Annie Wade, her daughter, needed a place to live and she and her family came to live with her mother. I don't know if you remember any of the Wades, like Tootsie Wade and all of them. Anyway, all of them came.

Chewing: There's a Wade – her name is Margaret Wade Harris who lives in Staunton.

Stuart: That's it. That's Tootsie. Her family all lived in Brownsburg. And her father was not very substantial, and he sort of would go off drunk every once in a while. Anyway, then she needed to come home, and that Aunt Sis was her mother. See. So then, we had to find another place to live apparently, I don't know. But anyway, they moved up there with her, and then we went down to the bottom end of Brownsburg and I don't know what house it was. It was down there, I think next to the Post Office or along there somewhere.

Chewning: Because there used to be kind of a bigger house there.

Stuart: Yeah. Yeah. Oh, yeah, goodness sakes. Well, I'm not sure that we didn't live in the one next – that's still – that's between the Post Office and the log house that's for sale now.

Chewning: Where Lib Ward lived.

Stuart. Yes, where Lib Ward lived. And it belonged to Miss Ida Whitesell at that time. Some reason that sticks in my head. She had bought it to retire to but she was not ready to retire, and it seems to me that we rented that house for a while. Then, after that – I mean we just –

Chewning: You lived in every house in Brownsburg!

Stuart: Almost every house in Brownsburg. Then, let me see. Ah, Aunt Hassie, who lived across from John Layton [2682 Brownsburg Turnpike]. Dice. She was a Dice. And she married Mr. Bolen. Well, both of her husbands died. And she was Dad's real aunt. Grandmother Wiseman's sister. And so she was going to go to Lynchburg to live with – or to be near her children and so Dad and Mother rented her house. And we lived there – I don't know – I remember a lot about living there and so forth. So we lived there until Aunt Sis died and they were selling the estate and Dad bought that house [2651 Brownsburg Turnpike] and we lived there the rest of the time. And then Mother – or

somebody – I don't think Mother told me how they did that – moved that little house from the front yard into the back yard, and then she made a place for grandkids to have a playhouse. And they really did –

Chewning: And it's still there.

Stuart: And it's still there. I don't know what Walter and Doris do with it, but Mother had a playhouse for the kids in there.

Chewning: But it was the shoemakers's shop?

Stuart: Yeah. Yeah, it was the shoemaker's and that's why it was in the front yard, you see, because people came and bought their shoes. I never knew him. But I knew Aunt Sis. We got a little tired of Aunt Sis [laugh] but anyway. She's Virginia Mays' great aunt.

Chewning: And so you went all the way through school at Brownsburg?

Stuart: Oh, yes, yes, all the way. Yeah.

Chewning: Do you remember who some of your teachers were?

Stuart: Oh, I remember almost all of them! Absolutely. I think Isabel Huffman – well, she was Isabel McNutt. And when she taught me, she was Isabel Leech. Do you remember Isabel at all?

Chewning: Every time I ever met her, I think she told me she taught my Dad.

Stuart: Oh, of course she did! Of course she did. And she just died a couple of years ago. Not even that long. And she married Julian Huffman, so -- anyway, she taught me in the first and second grade, when we had our last reunion, I went out – she lived just

outside of town here – and picked her up. She went with us, and she was so excited, and when I got out there, she wasn't dressed or anything. That time we were having it at Rockbridge Baths – and a couple of times during our trip out there she said, “Now where's this we're going?” So you know. But it was so good to have known her that many years. It was just marvelous! She was a great lady. Anyway, she taught me in the first and second grade and it was – well the first grade, I know I came from over there – the farm you see. And I just felt like I didn't know where I was going. And she was just the most marvelous thing! She made me think I was the most important person in the world! She really did – she was just marvelous. Thank goodness I had a chance to tell her that. I mean, I really did. But anyway, then the third grade – Jen Heffelfinger – Jen Wade taught me.

Chewing: Oh, she did?

Stuart: Yeah, I think that was the third grade. And she was still Jen Wade then. And then, let me see, the fourth grade, Thelma – she was Thelma Leech and she married a Jones. And she hasn't been dead very long. She was from Collierstown. And then the fifth grade – let me see now, what was her name? She was also a Wade – sort of a heavy-set – what was her first name? Don't believe I can remember her name. But the fifth grade was the year – my fifth grade, your daddy was a year ahead of me. That's when they closed all of these little schools around. And Pauline – that lady's name was Pauline – she was Pauline Wade. They brought Broadview – which was on what is now Stuart Road – the Dixons and all of them came. They brought all of them down. And Boyd went to a little one-room school that Lib Ward and Lizzie Williams taught. He rode his pony over to that one – just beside that little church there at Bustleburg [Oak Hill School at McElwee Chapel]. And they closed that and brought all of them down. And we just became a bigger school. And at that time, we were all in that little old red schoolhouse. We had from the first through the fifth in that little red school house. And anyway, then, that was the first time I'd ever met Boyd. First time I ever saw him – I didn't think too much of him, really! [Laugh].

Chewning: [Laugh]

Stuart: Oh, Lordy! But then, the sixth grade, we moved into the – Mother called it the Home Economics Building, the concrete building that’s still up there. We moved into that in the sixth grade, and I believe that – what was her name? Anyway – why can’t I – remember her name? And she married Mr. East. And her brother was a preacher out here in Collierstown for so long; his name was Dr. Diehl. Anyway, she was a good teacher, too. And then Mrs. Montgomery was our seventh grade school teacher. She was not married, but I think she subsequently got married. So – and then we got in high school, and one of my first high school teachers was Senora McClung.

Chewning: Really!

Stuart: Yeah. And she was Senora Shorter.

Chewning: I didn’t know that she had been a teacher.

Stuart: Oh, my gosh, yes. That’s why she came here. She told me that – she’s from Lynchburg. And she was straight out of college. She said she wasn’t more than two or three years older than we were. And her father brought her. And they were coming up through Brownsburg. And her father said, “Oh, Senora, you’re not going to stay over here.” He said, “I just can’t leave you here, and I’ll be worried to death.” She said, “Well, I’m going to stay with somebody called Mrs. Wade, and let’s go to talk to her and see if you feel a little different, and if you want me to go back, then I’ll go.” And they went around and talked with Mrs. Wade. Well she said, “Little did I know I was going to spend the rest of my life here!” [Laugh] So she did. And anyway, she was – she was too near our age. She still contends that we were really a marvelous, bright bunch of kids, and she really enjoyed every one of us, but we didn’t think she was a very good teacher at all. [Laugh]

Chewning: Because it was her first year?

Stuart: It was her first year teaching. Yeah, right straight out of college. And I remember Miss Trimmer told us – now we were having –

Chewing: Miss Trimmer was the principal?

Stuart: Oh, my gosh, was she ever the principal! Whoa! Anyway Miss Trimmer told us before she came, “Now you all are really, really lucky. You have this lady who is coming to be your home room teacher. And she’s going to teach--” I don’t know what classes she was going to teach us, I don’t remember that. Whatever it was, she was going to be a really good teacher. “And she is from wealth. And she was planning to travel in Europe.” Well, at that time, Europe could have been the other side of the moon for all we knew! [Laugh] She was going to travel in Europe and the war came along, and she wasn’t able to, and she just decided she was going to come and – she didn’t say “do you the honor,” but anyway “She is going to come and teach you all, so you really – I want you to really respect her, and realize how lucky you are.” Well anyway, it was Senora Shorter. And she – then, let’s see, the next, sophomore year, I think Mr. Lunsford taught us. Anyway, he came from somewhere down in Alabama, and he came to coach the boys’ basketball team, and that’s the year we tried to have a football team, and everybody broke their legs, and everything and they couldn’t have a football team! [Laugh] And we had football practice down there along Hays Creek where Bernice [Nye] owns now [near 2843 Brownsburg Turnpike], that was our football field. I think he was our homeroom teacher then. You know, I don’t remember who our junior year was. Unless it was Mrs. Patterson, but I don’t think it was. I don’t think she was ever homeroom teacher. But anyway, I don’t know. Then Miss Trimmer was our senior homeroom teacher.

Chewing: So she took the seniors?

Stuart: Oh, my goodness yes. Well, she took everybody, really but – [laugh]. But the seniors were with her for homeroom.

Chewning: Where did she live?

Stuart: She lived every place.

Chewning: Did she live in Brownsburg?

Stuart: Yeah, at sometimes, yeah, most of the time she did. She lived in the house that Catharine Gilliam owns now [2703 Brownsburg Turnpike]. With the Bosworths.

[Phone rings, and Stuart answers it.]

Stuart: Catharine tells me that she wants me to come out there. And I remember when Miss Trimmer lived in the upstairs of that house. And ah, then she also, for several years, rented that house down there at the bottom end of town. Just as you go down to Sterrett Road. Who owns it? I don't even know who lives there now.

Chewning: Is it where Dr. [Richard G.] Hutcheson lived [former New Providence minister]?

Stuart: Yeah.

Chewning: Gwyn Campbell lives there now [2766 Brownsburg Turnpike].

Stuart: Alright. It was in that. And Miss Trimmer rented the whole house, and then she rented to the teachers who needed a place to live. Well anybody who knew Miss Trimmer knew that that was not going to work.

Chewning: [Laugh]

Stuart: Because [laugh] – and if you all talk with Mollie Sue, and I’m sure you did – she was one of the ones who boarded and roomed in that place down there. And Isabel Huffman, and some of the people I have talked to.

Chewning: Was she just too strict?

Stuart: Oh, yes, she ran everybody – and you knew that she’d run her teachers! And I think it was a really nice arrangement but, particularly the unmarried women, they were not going to [laugh] let her tell them who they could go with! And she tried to do that! Bless her heart, she was a marvelous, marvelous lady, and I just give her some much credit.

Chewning: Sounds like she ran a pretty tight ship.

Stuart: Oh boy, did she ever! You know, Mother said she was a principal when she went to school up there. I don’t know, it must have been the last couple of years of Mother’s time. But she had been there forever. Boy, she ran that place. But she – when you get out and you look back – my goodness, that lady – she was a real – I don’t know what you’d call her. She coached, lots of times she coached the boys’ basketball team. She always coached the girls’ basketball teams. Always. She coached softball, volleyball, anything the girls did. She also had the Glee Club, she did these operettas that we had – I mean operettas that were really, really well done. She did it. She had the ability to do that. And was the principal of the school. And the disciplinarian, if there ever was one. And then she did all of the plays that we did. One time we did a Stephen Foster thing. Ah, and then we did something called “Sunbonnet Sue”, I think, and I still have the sunbonnet that Mother made me.

Chewning: Oh, how neat!

Stuart: And she did all of the graduation things, and how in the world she ever did it, I don’t know. She was a multi-talented lady.

Chewning: She must have been really remarkable.

Stuart: She was. And then Boyd – she and Mrs. Patterson, you know Rosenell Patterson who was the math teacher. She might have been my junior year homeroom teacher. She taught all the math, and I didn't like math. At all. But Boyd took every bit of math they had. And she taught Plane and Solid Geometry, and then two other math things. I've forgotten what they –

Chewning: Algebra, probably.

Stuart: Yeah, algebra. I took first year algebra. That's all. I had to have three maths to graduate. [Laugh] That's the only reason. But Boyd loved it, and he – after he went in the Air Force, he took every test and volunteered for everything to keep himself in this country. He didn't want to go overseas. And so he volunteered to take the test to be a pilot. And he took the thing, and he thought, "Well, you know, gosh, I probably flunked it." Well, after the war, they sent him down to Greensboro to deal with something called "classifications". I don't know. Apparently they put what soldiers had done and so forth on cards or something. Anyway, that's where he worked. And he pulled his and found that he did pass it. He did pass that test. And here there were college kids with Masters Degrees. He was straight out of high school. And that'll tell you. Boyd was bright and he applied himself but Brownsburg was just a little old country school down here.

Chewning: But you felt like you got a really good education.

Stuart: A good education. A good solid education. When I went over to Lynchburg to business school, the amazing thing was some of those girls didn't know how to walk straight. And I just felt I really was superior. I mean, I just give Mrs. [Rosenell] Patterson, and the other teachers I had, and particularly Miss Trimmer because she encouraged those teachers to walk the line. And they taught. They probably weren't paid anything at all. But they, they did the deal. And it was there for you if you wanted

to get it. It was a really, really good school, Isabelle. And she was such a disciplinarian, if you wanted to get it, you got it. Because that place – nobody disturbed those classes like they did in later years. [Laugh] I mean they didn't dare, because those great big grown boys, they might not have been afraid of her, but they were intimidated by her.

Chewning: How many people were in your class?

Stuart: We didn't have very many in our senior class. Because if they were 17 years old, they were taken to the military. They were drafted. And some of those boys were older. I don't know if you knew Sam Miller –

Chewning – Uh hm.

Stuart: He was one of the ones, and Ralph Robinson. They were taken because they were older. And Boyd was older, but he had taken a test, and was eligible for the Air Force. And Richard Beard did the same, and he was eligible for the Navy. So they weren't drafted. But a lot of them were drafted. I don't think we had more than 15 in our graduating class in '44. And see it was right in the middle of the war. And we didn't have an annual or any of those things.

Chewning: Do you remember the air raid drills where you had to turn out all the lights?

Stuart: Of course! Oh yes, and Dad was one of those air raid people, you know, so he'd go out on his watch, and we'd all turn ours off, and of course, at school, we had something called – I don't remember what it was called. But we all had our little hats and everything, and we drilled and carried on at school.

Chewning: When you say he went out on his watch, what was that?

Stuart: Well he was – Dad was responsible for a certain part of town.

Chewning: Just making sure that everyone's lights were out?

Stuart: Everybody's lights were out and everybody was okay. I don't know what they called those, there was a name for them. And Dad had a certain number of places, yeah. And then of course, my brother, Carl, who graduated a year ahead of me, graduated from high school and that summer right on to Alabama. Six weeks of basic training right off to North Africa, and Italy, and the Battle of the Bulge. And here he was – I mean gosh, 17 years old. You know, I didn't even realize how young 17 was, back then, you know because I thought he was a grown man. He was a kid!

Chewning: Seventeen is young.

Stuart: Seventeen. And six months basic training. Six months. And then he came home on a furlough or something and then he went back to Norfolk, and that's when he went – straight out. I mean that war was something else. Shoot, people talk about this one now. I know people are being killed, and they're dead. But, but it is nothing like World War II.

Chewning: And do you remember the rationing?

Stuart: Oh my goodness sakes, yes. We couldn't get sugar. We couldn't get gasoline to go anyplace. And I, we, we were lucky because we did live in the country and some of the boys were able to get gas for farm equipment, you know, and I could date some of them who had farm gas! [Laugh]

Chewning: You had your priorities!

Stuart: I had them really straight, boy. I had a marvelous time in high school. Even in spite – and George East was one of the first boys who was killed, and that really put a pall over our community. Because we were all crazy about George East, he was an artist. And I really remember George coming into one of my elementary classes, and drawing a

picture of the three pigs and they put them in the pot, or something. And I can see that pot right now. And he drew those pigs, you know. And then he was killed.

Chewning: How much older than you was he?

Stuart: Oh, he was a lot – he was a lot older than I. My goodness, I think he was at Georgia Tech – I know he was in college, don't think he had graduated, he was something like a junior – in college when he was drafted. And ah, that really, I mean it really put a downer over everybody in Brownsburg. And of course, his parents never, never got over that. She got – and I'm sure you've heard your parents say this – she said she would never go back to New Providence again because no God that she would believe in would take her son. And, you know, that's – who could blame her? But –

Chewning: Was he their only son?

Stuart: Oh, goodness yes. And she doted absolutely on him. I think that he'd been born, you know, when they were older. And she, she was just absolutely devastated and never got over it.

Chewning: That's sad.

Stuart: Yeah, it is. It is.

Chewning: And what was your Dad doing during the war?

Stuart: Ah, well, he was still driving the bus. He traded up, you know, and I think he always owned his bus. I guess it was --

Chewning: What did he do in the summer?

Stuart: Well, in the summer, I think he worked in a store. In somebody's store down town. Real often he worked for Elmer Huffman in the store [2712 Brownsburg Turnpike]. Or – and then, when the Farmer's Coop came, that's how he started working with them. And ah – but gosh, you know there were – there was lots going on.

Chewning: Well, it seems like it was a happening place!

Stuart: It was, it was a marvelous place to grow up, Isabelle. Do you know – sure you know. We had, the boys had baseball in the spring, and the girls had softball and both of us played out there in your daddy's meadow.

Chewning: Did you?

Stuart: Yeah! And lots of times we had to walk, but we didn't care! Good gracious, I loved athletics. I played everything.

Chewning: Oh did you?

Stuart: Yes. And of course, Mother said she played everything. And then Dot, who was her sister, but she was so much younger. And Dot was four years ahead of me, and she was the star basketball player – well Miss Trimmer decided because I was her niece I could do it too! [Laugh] And I did it, boy! I had a – you know I played everything that was playable. And it was really a marvelous time – my sister and Marjorie Ann and I have said over and over, we never would have wanted to grow up any place else. I mean it was a marvelous place for kids. Everything we wanted or desired was right there for us.

Chewning: And were there a lot of kids that lived in Brownsburg?

Stuart: Oh yes, yes. All the Wades, and there were bunches of them.

Chewning: Which Wades were they?

Stuart: That was the one you said that her name was Margaret Ellen Harris. There were a bunch, I think she was the youngest of a great big family. And of course when the war came along, it took the boys all away. But before the war, there were – and a couple of the Wades never decided which one of us was Frances and which was Louise. They'd just say "Hello, Frances and Louise." They didn't have time to worry about which was which! [Laugh] Anyway, there were all of those, and of course, Marjorie Ann was just somebody that lived with us most of the time. And the Bowles, I haven't told you the story of the Bowles, I wanted to tell you that. There were about four or five of them over there. Gosh, who else was there?

[End of Tape 1, Side A]

Chewning: What about the stores in Brownsburg?

Stuart: Okay. Across the street from the store which was owned by the Englemans [currently Dick Barnes' residence at 8 Hays Creek Road] then was Bob Supinger's Store [current location of Old South Antiques].

Chewning: Which one was where the antique shop is now?

Stuart: That's Bob Supinger's store.

Chewning: And so the Englemans were –

Stuart: On the other side, where Dick Barnes lives.

Chewning: Oh, okay. Where the Coop went later?

Stuart: Yeah, exactly, that was the store there. And somebody was always running that store. It was a big store. And Bob Supinger stayed in his all the time. Of course, it was probably a way to get away from Osie, his wife! [Laugh] But anyway, he was always in that store. If you couldn't find any other person open, you knew Bob Supinger was open. And he sold all the stuff that you needed, and then in the back of his store, Bud Wade cut hair, and he had a pool table in there that people came from the farms and every where else and played pool. So that was always going on. And then around the corner, Mr. Carwell had his garage, and there were always people around there, you know. There was always stuff going on.

Chewning: Well, did the stores have different merchandise? I mean, how did you decide which store to go to?

Stuart: Well, you just went to the one that was closest to you. [Laugh]

Chewning: Oh, okay. Nobody got their feelings hurt if you went to another store?

Stuart: [Laugh] No! No, no, no, no, not at all! And of course, Elmer Huffman sold lots of popsicles and ice cream and that kind of stuff, so that's where you'd head when you first got out of school, you see. And then, of course, the telephone office was upstairs over the bank [2711 Brownsburg Turnpike]. The bank was always there where the concrete building is – somebody lives in it now. And then upstairs, when they had those things that you stuck in and pulled back, you know. I think Mattie lived up there all the time. And Osie lived up there part of the time, she and Bob. And part of the time they lived out there in the country where Amelia, their other sister lived. So between the two sisters –

Chewning: So Mattie and Mealie and Osie were all sisters?

Stuart: Yes, and Mealie – Amelia – never married and so she stayed at the home place [1727 Sterrett Road].

Chewning: Did Mattie ever marry?

Stuart: No, Mattie never married either. And then, of course, the Post Office was where Catharine Gilliam owns now [2707 Brownsburg Turnpike]. She didn't know she had gotten that!

Chewning: The store?

Stuart: Yes. That's where the Post Office was and Mrs. Bosworth ran the Post Office then.

Chewning: And that's Dr. Bosworth's mother who ran the Post Office?

Stuart: Yeah. Tommy's mother. Yeah. Uh huh. And they lived in the house. Mr. Jim and she lived in the house.

Chewning: In Catharine's house?

Stuart: In Catharine's house.

Chewning: Oh. So Dr. Bosworth grew up there?

Stuart: Yeah! Sure. And Fanny who was Tom's sister. She grew up there. Yeah, I remember Fanny. She was right – a lot older. But now, Tommy was in high school when I was in grade school, so I remember he was hanging around Brownsburg. Fanny was off to college somewhere by that time. But she used to come back a lot, too, so I knew her. But anyway, I guess Mrs. Bosworth died, or got too old and gave it up, or something. And I remember Sam Patterson – one of Sam Patterson's sisters – not Tate, but a little older than Tate. And for the life of –

Chewning: Betsy?

Stuart: No, no, it wasn't Betsy, it was another one. It must have been their oldest sister, I cannot remember –

Chewning: Was there one named something like Cornelia?

Stuart: Yeah, exactly! That's the name. It's something like that. She ran that Post Office then. And I don't know whether you had to take a test, but she was out of school and I guess she wasn't in college, I don't know. But she was – oh, I thought she was just marvelous! Because she was so much older, and she was so sophisticated!

Chewning: [Laugh]

Stuart: And we used to go – my sister and Marjorie Ann and I'd go down there real often. And particularly in the summer time, and sit out there in front of that Post Office and talk to her, and get all these tales, you know. She was probably lying! [Laugh] But we were just little cisterns! We were taking every bit of it in! And we really – and I really remember her for that. If I could remember her first name. And I don't think it's been too many years since she died. She married somebody over there who lived beyond Old Providence Church. Over in there someplace. But anyway, she used to do a lot of handiwork, and I remember she made this bathrobe. And then she – it was a time when chenille was the biggest thing, you know, and then she did the chenille to cover that whole thing.

Chewning: Oh, my goodness.

Stuart: We thought that was the most marvelous thing anyway. So we sat there and talked and we just had the best old time. I mean that's the way Brownsburg was. And somebody else that I remember and today – oh gosh – Harve Matheny. The name, does that name --

Chewning: I've never even heard that name.

Stuart: Okay. Alrighty. He had a sort of a trailer kind of a thing, and it was parked in there about in back behind Dick Barnes – near where his log cabin is [8 Hays Creek Road], right along there. It was parked. It was probably parked out on the state road, I don't know. But it was parked back in there somewhere. And anyway, he fixed shoes. And Marjorie Ann and – we called my sister Jude – anyway, Marjorie Ann and Jude and I used to go down there and sit in this trailer kind of thing with him, and talk to him, and learn all of this important information that he had to impart. And he was one of these guys who could take warts off of your hand. And he took one off of my hand. And ah, then – and you've never heard that name?

Chewning: What is it again?

Stuart: Harve Matheny.

Chewning: Harve Matheny?

Stuart: Matheny.

Chewning: No, I never –

Stuart: And he had a son, well that son wound up in the penitentiary somewhere. So I went down there, and wrote letters. He couldn't write. And wrote letters for him to his son in the penitentiary.

Chewning: How old were you when you were doing this?

Stuart: [Laugh] I don't remember. I don't know how old I was, but I was important!

Chewing: [Laugh] Did your mother know you had a penpal in the penitentiary?

Stuart: No! [Laugh] And today's parents would never let anything like that happen. Nobody ever imagined any of the horrible things that you hear now. But there we were, us little girls sitting up in there! [Laugh] A lot of times I went down there by myself. I mean, you know, he had this letter – he wanted me to read this letter from his son. Well anyway, then – my first job after school – Miss Jenny Patterson lived around there where Randall's mother lived [44 Hays Creek Road]. And she had been a home missionary from New Providence up in the mountains some place. Spent her whole life up there. And she retired and I don't know whether she bought – I guess she bought that place around there and was living there. And she needed somebody to help her after school. And so Dad thought I'd be good – I would be really good for that! [Laugh] So after school I went down, and the most thing I ever did was – she had a cistern out at the back. And the most thing I ever did was go out to the cistern and pump her some water up. And put it in a jar that she had and bring in the house to her. I don't remember – I guess I dusted – I don't know what else I did. [Laugh] But anyway, I went around there for a while. And one day, I went around there, and she decided I was so good that maybe I could clean her basement.

Chewing: Did she pay you?

Stuart: Yes, she paid me – I don't know how much it was. [Laugh] Probably a quarter a day! I don't know. But ah, anyway, ah, I cleaned that basement. And I really liked to clean, so I got down there, and I did a really good job, but I don't know what – she probably paid me a quarter for that. But I told Dad I'd had it! I was not going back any more! [Laugh] And I didn't, so I lost that job! [Laugh] But anyway, I – you know, I was having too good a time, I didn't want to fool with it – it was cutting into my “having a good time” time. But anyway, Brownsburg was an interesting place. It really was. And Marjorie Ann and my sister and I, we'd talk about this all the time. And I told our preacher when he preached my sister's funeral. And I told him and his wife all about

what we did, and Marjorie Ann was there. And we used to – we played paperdolls until – like I told my niece, I played paperdolls through the week, and dated boys on Sunday --

Chewning: [Laugh}

Stuart: Because we just loved those paperdolls. I mean, we cut them out of a catalog, a pattern catalog that we came up to Lexington and Adair Hutton's gave us the book. And we'd cut the bottoms out, and then we chose a head, and put those heads on those clothes, and they lived in a catalog. We had the catalog, you know, and had it all fixed out here. And we – these people were real to us! My girl was Joanne. I still remember Joanne. I remember her name. She had brown hair. We just had wondered – what in the world ever happened to our catalogs? Because they just were real people to us, and we had the best time playing with those things. It didn't cost anybody anything. But anyway, those were some of the things –

Chewning: Did you have animals?

Stuart: No. We didn't. Mother had a couple of old cats.

Chewning: Outside cats?

Stuart: Outside cats. And I never have liked old cats. We just weren't animal people. We really weren't. I think Marjorie Ann's family had a dog. Yeah, they had one dog I know that they called Prince. I didn't even like that old thing. I just didn't like dogs. But we didn't, no. We had – on the farm when we were over there, Uncle Buzz had a great big old collie, and we liked that dog, but other than that we weren't very big animal people. And see Mother's sisters all lived around there, so we had tons and tons of cousins to play with.

Chewning: Oh, you had a lot of cousins to play with.

Stuart: Yes. Before the war, yes.

Chewning: Does anything stand out in your mind as something really momentous or important that happened in Brownsburg?

Stuart: Well, the thing that I remember most – of course I was older – was Pearl Harbor Day, which was December 7, 1941. And I was still young, but it, we knew that – I mean, if my life had depended on it, I could not have told anybody where Pearl Harbor was. I mean, it was just something out of the sky. And it was just so shocking. And of course, we all had radios. And all of a sudden, here it was, on a Sunday. That we were at war. There was no question about it. And it was really a shock to everybody, because here we'd been living back here in the mountains, and we were doing our own thing and all of a sudden. And I remember – I haven't checked with anybody else – but I think that there was a program up at the schoolhouse. Miss Trimmer might have called it because she was in charge. It was either at the schoolhouse or out at New Providence, and I'm not sure which. And we had a service.

Chewning: That day? That Sunday?

Stuart: That same day. That Sunday afternoon. And everybody – I think it was up at the high school. Everybody went up there, and the preacher – Dr. Hanna came, and they had some singing and that was, you know, that was a shock.

Chewning: And then did you listen – I mean, did the radio have a lot of news about the war?

Stuart: Oh, absolutely, absolutely. Every night you listened to ah – oh my gosh, I don't know who it was we listened to. Ah, but it was important you listened every night, particularly after Carl left. But oh, no, after that everybody listened to the radio and kept up with everything that was going on. And, I mean, our lives changed. There was no question. Our lives changed like that. And we were never carefree again.

Chewning: When did Carl leave?

Stuart: He graduated from high school in '43. And like I said, right off he was in the Battle of the Bulge. He was wounded three times.

Chewning: Oh, he was?

Stuart: Oh, yes. Yes. Three times. And the last time, I was in Lynchburg then, and they sent him back by plane. And he came back to the place down there below Staunton. That hospital down there. And the war was, you know, winding down by then. He was glad to fly home because he got seasick going over there. He was so seasick, he thought he would die, he said. [Laugh] But he was so glad to be flown back. There was a great big hospital down there where that Fishersville –

Chewning: Oh, Woodrow Wilson?

Stuart: Woodrow Wilson. Yeah, it was a great big hospital. Down there then. And they tried to get them as close to home as they could. So anyway, I tell you, it was a shock to everybody when that – and of course you couldn't get anything, you couldn't get anywhere. And everything you went to do, you couldn't do it. We had our senior play, just like normal and the senior exercises and so forth. But, you know, it just wasn't the same. The name of our senior play was "The Arrival of Kitty." Guess who was Kitty? [Laugh]

Chewning: [Laugh] You were the star?

Stuart: But I wasn't the real star because [laugh] I don't know, Miss Trimmer was something. Anyway, she chose me for Kitty she told Mother because she thought I was dating Richard Beard at the time. And it happened, I was dating Boyd. [Laugh]

Chewning: So she didn't know everything that was going on!

Stuart: She didn't know everything! And the play wound me up with Boyd, see.
[Laugh]

Chewning: Little did she know!

Stuart: Little did she know!

Chewning: Well I was interested when you said you had operettas?

Stuart: Oh, we did! We had operettas! And I'm telling you, Isabelle, it was good! It was good!

Chewning: Did Mrs. Whipple play the piano?

Stuart: She played it after she came, yes. And this Leech lady I was telling you about who taught me in the third grade played the piano. And I believe George East played the piano. You know, Miss Trimmer knew what she was doing. I mean, we had – John Layton [Whitesell] had a gorgeous voice. He sang a lot. We did a Stephen Foster thing – I told you that. And a lot of people who really could sing contributed. And I mean Miss Trimmer practiced us until we did it right, and we sang whether we could sing or not!! [Laugh] We didn't dare not sing. And it was good! I tell you it really was good. And we had that – this was after we moved into the new building you see – and we had that big stage. Or we thought it was a big stage then. And even when we were in that little red brick building, there was a big stage for that. But I was in grade school, so she had grade school things, you know. And she really did, she had us all marching around with these things with the flowers over top of our heads, you know, and little dresses – she told our parents what dresses we had to have. Unbelievable!

Chewning: Where was the little red brick school?

Stuart: Okay. It was – you know where the concrete one now is?

Chewning: Uh hm.

Stuart. And there was a big cistern here.

Chewning: Right.

Stuart: And the brick one was right there.

Chewning: So did they tear that down to build the high school?

Stuart: Yes.

Chewning: Okay.

Stuart: Yes, they tore that down when they built the big one. It had been condemned. But it really is a shame, because that was the courthouse, see.

Chewning: I wonder if anybody has pictures of that.

Stuart: Oh, I'm sure they do. Because I went to the fifth grade in that. And I'm sure people – there are people. I don't know if I have one. You know, I didn't look up any pictures, and I know I've got a ton of them. I don't know if I have a picture of that building or not. But that's where that thing happened when that doctor got killed and all of that, you know. So there was – it was an historic building, and it just was too bad that it got torn down.

Chewning: Yeah, that's a shame.

Stuart. Yeah, it is. But before I – when I was still in there, they had condemned the auditorium upstairs so that you couldn't have things up there.

Chewning: So I guess you really did need a new one.

Stuart. Oh, no question! Of course it was dangerous because they oiled the floor, and then we had wood stoves. I mean – duh!!! [Laugh] But we did. We did.

Chewning: Yeah.

Stuart: Yeah. And there was a – I remember the fire escape from the upstairs and it was metal. But we, you know, she practiced us and we went up and down that thing.

Chewning: Oh, I think my – I don't know if it's that fire escape, but my Dad always tells the story about "Robin Hood". I guess you were doing "Robin Hood" or something, and they wheeled Mrs. Whipple's piano out there on the fire escape.

Stuart: Absolutely! Oh, absolutely! I remember that! That's when I was telling – I was a year younger, and had this thing on over my head with this floozy little dress [laugh].

Chewning: [Laugh]

Stuart: That was the same time! Absolutely! Absolutely. And, you know the girls used to play basketball out there – outside. And Miss Trimmer would make the little kids get out there and pick up all the pebbles. [Laugh]

Chewning: [Laugh] Did you –

Stuart: We were so tickled to do it!

Chewning: Did you play – did they play other schools? Was it competitive basketball?

Stuart: Yeah, oh yes! Yes. Yes. Yes. Absolutely. Now of course I was a kid then but by the time I was playing we had the gym. And we certainly did, but by that time, everything was competitive. We played Lexington High School then. Yeah, but they played competitively when they played outside, too. Of course, nobody had inside courts then. [Laugh] Oh Lord! Let me see, I wanted to tell you about – there was one story that I really wanted to tell, because I don't know if anybody knows this or not. It's amazing to me how many people have died. Gosh, I'm 79.

Chewning: Well, you're a very young 79!

Stuart: [Laugh] Oh, gosh! Well anyway, this must have been in the early 30's, and you know, it was tough. People – nobody had anything. I mean –

Chewning: In the Depression?

Stuart: Even if you owned land, you didn't have dollars. It was just unbelievable. But of course, I didn't care. Mother and Dad were just the most marvelous parents. I mean, shoot, they didn't care anything about money you know, it didn't matter. Anyway, but, what happened was we ah, I guess were living in Brownsburg at that time, I'm not sure. But, you know over there – right across the street from where John Layton and Virginia [Whitesell] live – what's their name?

Chewning: Where Dick and Betsy Anderson live now?

Stuart: Where the Andersons live [2671 Brownsburg Turnpike]. There was a lady, Mrs. Morris, who was a minister, and she was from some kind – I thought she was Quaker. But my friend Flossie who just called is a Quaker, and she said they never sent out missionaries. And I talked with Tootsie after that, and she said, "Well, no, Mrs. Morris was not a Quaker." She was some sort of a – I don't know what her religion was. But she was from Ohio, Tootsie told me. And her church in Ohio had sent her and her

husband down to the mountains in Virginia to save our souls [laugh] down here. And so she – they came down and bought this house – now I don't know when that was, must have been long, long time ago. Anyway, her husband, and she was getting older. She was Mrs. Marie, but everybody called her Miss Mamie. She was Mrs. Mamie Morris. I never knew her husband; he died early. But anyway, she kept on living in the house, and she had a church that they had built, which was on the lot between Betsy's house [2671 Brownsburg Turnpike] and our house [2651 Brownsburg Turnpike], right on that lot. And it faced the Methodist – the Black church [Asbury United Methodist Church]. But it was on that lot, sort of a long church. And that's where they had their services. And Tootsie's parents belonged to that church. Ah, I don't know who else, but anyway, one time, in the early '30's, this woman and her husband – they lived in Petersburg – and people did a lot of hitch hiking and so forth when there were no jobs back then, you know. And so she and her husband didn't have a job, and for some reason, they left Petersburg. He had problems with his back, and she was pregnant. So they hitch hiked. Just go anywhere that somebody would take them. So they wound up in Staunton. And then they got on the back road that comes up to Brownsburg, and they were hitch hiking out there. And somebody picked them up on that road, brought them up and stopped. Then, they stopped at the Slusser's [4216 Brownsburg Turnpike]. I don't know why, maybe it was one of the Slussers that picked them up, I don't know. But anyway, at the Slussers. They went in and asked the Slussers if they would give them something to eat. Or if they had a place for them to stay. And Mrs. Eglantine [Slusser] said "Well, we don't have – we have a full house, but I think I know somebody that will help you." So she made arrangements – maybe she brought them in to Mrs. Morris'. Well, in the meantime, Tootsie's sister, older sister, her name was Edith. She was Edith Wade and she married Houston Harlow later. But see, she was living over there at the house that we lived in with her mother and grandmother at that time [2651 Brownsburg Turnpike]. So she was going to come over and spend the night with Mrs. Morris because Mrs. Morris was apparently not feeling very well, and she needed somebody to spend the night with her. So, the Bowles, Edith and Edgar Bowles, these people from – the Slussers brought them in, and just let them out there, and told them to go up on Mrs. Morris' steps. Well, it happened that Edith Wade's name was "Edith", and Edith Bowles' name was

“Edith” so the Bowles knocked on the door, and Mrs. Morris yelled and said, “Come on in, Edith, I’ll be there in a few minutes!” [Laugh]

Chewning: [Laugh]

Stuart: So the Bowles came in, and then she came in, and it was the Bowles. Well anyway, the upshot of that was, they stayed there – I’m not sure exactly when they left, because I was gone, but that must have been the ‘30’s, they must have left sometime in the ‘80’s [‘40’s?]. They had a whole family, and their oldest daughter, they named Frances Morris. She was Frances Morris Bowles. And then they had a son whose name was, I think, Bobby. And they had another one, and then one of Edith’s children that she had had by somebody else came and lived with them. Anyway, they stayed there. And how they ever managed – because there was no Social Security, or nothing for poor people. And where Mrs. Morris got money, I don’t know. And Mr. Bowles couldn’t work – he had something wrong his back. So I never knew him to do any work. He was always over there. But they did take care of Mrs. Morris. It was – you know, it just was to be! They – and Mrs. Morris. Edith and Mother were great buds. We moved all over town, but they were great buds! [Laugh]

Chewning: [Laugh]

Stuart: Edith had been in some kind of a fire, and her face was sort of scarred. But she was just a marvelous person! And this little Frances Morris that they had was the prettiest little child you ever saw in your life! But anyway, one time, you know Boyd and I built – after we were married we built that house down there below your father’s farm.

Chewning: Oh right, where Mrs. Cash lived?

Stuart: Exactly. We built that there [2640 Sterrett Road]. And one Sunday afternoon – well, we were married in ’47, and this must have been like 1950 or something. We were all down at Mother’s. And Mother and Dad had gone somewhere and hadn’t gotten back,

and Marjorie Ann and her husband were up there. Anyway, Frances Morris and her family came in. And I mean, we hadn't seen them for so long but we loved seeing them again. None of us were sure when they left, but it must have been in the '80's ['40's?] or something like that.

Chewning: Not the '80's?

Stuart: Must have been the '80's ['40's?]. Yeah.

Chewning: Oh.

Stuart: And yeah, yeah, the whole generation. I mean they all grew up over there!
[Laugh] Yeah! Well I don't know, if they came in – let's say '35, something like that. And, I mean they were still there when I went off to Lynchburg. I graduated in '44.

Chewning: When did the Swopes live there?

Stuart: Well they – well Mrs. Morris died, and that's apparently why the Bowles left, see, and they went back to Petersburg. And that's when the whole estate was sold, and the Swopes bought it. And I don't know about the years, but that's when they bought it. I mean now, isn't that the most unbelievable story?

Chewning: Yes, uh huh.

Stuart: But Mrs. Morris was one of the people who was always a friend of ours, and we used to go over there and Mr. Bowles played – what was it we played? What is it that you build hotels and –

Chewning: Oh, Monopoly?

Stuart: Monopoly! My goodness, he used to sit in there in that living room. Of course, I was down there when Betsy [Anderson] had it open, and I said it doesn't look like that now! [Laugh] When I sat in here and played Monopoly. I mean just hours upon hours upon hours that we sat in there, Marjorie Ann and my sister and me.

Chewning: Who is Marjorie Ann again?

Stuart: She's John Layton's [Whitesell] sister.

Chewning: Okay.

Stuart: Yeah, and anyway, it was just unbelievable and then Clint Troxell was another one of the really strange people around town that we were great friends –

Chewning: I remember the Troxell name.

Stuart: Yeah, he lived out on the creek someplace. And he had – he'd been married and had children but his family was all gone, and he was kind of a drunk. But anyway, he would bring – he had a lot of dahlias, and when those dahlias would bloom, in he would come. And he would give them to all the “pretty girls”. And you just felt like you had arrived when you got some!! [Laugh] He was – and he really wasn't very clean, you didn't want to be around him, but you liked his flowers and you liked to be told you were pretty, you see! Anyway, they were just all characters.

Chewning: I love hearing about these characters.

Stuart: They – that's right. They were real – there just were a lot of characters in Brownsburg. And of course, Osie [Supinger] and Mattie [Wade]. It really is true, that they knew everything that was going on.

Chewning: [Laugh]

Stuart: See, that [telephone] equipment that they had was right at the front window. And they just sat there and did their job – well they could see everything that was going on. And it really – the last time I talked to Jimmy Bosworth, we were at a dinner, and he and his wife were invited – I guess the Marshall Foundation invited them in Washington. And for some reason or another, I was talking to Jimmy. And he was telling me again about – he sold some kind of medicine, traveled and did that. And he lived down there where Barnes lives now. And traveled and sold it. And he said a member of his firm called and wanted Jimmy Bosworth’s phone or something, and Osie said “Well, he’s not there because I just saw him go down the street!” [Laugh] And the people nearly dropped their teeth! [Laugh]

Chewning: That’s funny. A different life.

Stuart: That’s right. When Jimmy told me that story – I’d heard it before, but I knew it was true when he told me!

Chewning: Well, did they – could they hear the phone conversations, too?

Stuart: Oh, sure!

Chewning: And so they heard – they not only saw everything –

Stuart: Of course!

Chewning: that was happening on the street, they heard everything.

Stuart: Of course! They heard everything. See you were all on everybody’s line. We were – when we were out at Brownsburg, it was still a party line. We were on like “39”. Well everybody on 39 could hear everything that was said. [Laugh]

Chewning: I remember having a party line. I actually remember when we had “two longs and a short.”

Stuart: Exactly. That’s exactly what our phone was down there. And they just knew everything, and they didn’t mind telling it.

Chewning: [Laugh]

Stuart: Absolutely. Absolutely. So anyway, it was, it was a nice life! It really was. And I wouldn’t – well none of us would want it to be – to have lived any place else. And then, of course, people just began to go away. The Wades went to Staunton. Well, you know, in the house that you all have for the museum [2716 Brownsburg Turnpike], the Dunaways lived there, and she was Doodie. I don’t know what her real name was. But ah, they went to Waynesboro. See, everybody went to work in plants and that kind of stuff. And of course – It was a thriving place! [Laugh] It really was when we lived there.

Chewning: Do you have any thoughts on other people that we probably ought to be talking with? We have a big list of people –

Stuart: Yes.

Chewning: to talk to.

Stuart: Yes. I thought – I thought – you probably have her. But I thought Marjorie Ann.

Chewning: I don’t have her. I didn’t know her name until you mentioned it.

Stuart: Uh huh.

Chewning: What’s her name?

Stuart: Her name is Marjorie Whitesell Chittum.

Chewning: And where does she live?

Stuart: She lives in Fishersville.

Chewning: And she's younger than John Layton [Whitesell]?

Stuart: Oh, Lord, yes. Yes. She – goodness – she's younger than my sister. I can't tell you exactly how old Marjorie Ann is.

Chewning: Well that's – that would be great.

Stuart: Yes. And her –

Chewning: Because he's not doing very well, now.

Stuart: Oh, no, no, no. No. And I wouldn't – I wouldn't – huh uh. Her address is 165 Hickory Hill Road. Fishersville. And the zip is 22939. And her telephone is 540-543-5474.

Chewning: I'm so glad you knew about her.

Stuart. Yes. Yes. Because she – they – they were there. Of course, the Dudleys, Mrs. Dudley was her grandmother. And Mrs. Whitesell was a Dudley, see. She married Mr. Whitesell. He was from over at Aqua. And Michael Miley, Lee's photographer, is distant kin to him. The Mileys over there had a funeral home. Mr. Whitesell's mother was a Miley and married a Whitesell, and Mr. Whitesell's name was Miley Whitesell, so it gets all confusing. John Layton [Whitesell] still lives there where they grew up [2664 Brownsburg Turnpike]. And when we came to Brownsburg, Jude and I were enough the

same age that Marjorie Ann was. And Marjorie Ann and John Layton didn't get along at all! [Laugh] Cause there was so much difference in their age.

Chewning: Oh, yeah.

Stuart: Mr. Whitesell died – my goodness, Marjorie Ann wasn't more than nine or ten –

Chewning: Oh, no.

Stuart: yeah, when Mr. Whitesell died. I found an autograph book that I had when I was a kid, and Mr. Whitesell had –

Chewning: He had signed it?

Stuart: He had signed it, uh huh. He was a really, really nice person. And we were in and out of their house. We were together so much, you know. Because Mother and Dad were always home, and there was always food. So, anyway.

Chewning: Are you getting tired of talking?

Stuart: No, I'm not! [Laugh]

Chewning: [Laugh]

Stuart: I told you! I warned you! I really did. Let me see if there's anything I've got here. [Checks her notes.] Yeah, I've told you all of that. Oh, and another thing – can I tell you one more??

Chewning: Oh, absolutely, yeah!

Stuart: Now this was another of the unbelievable people. And she was a little tiny black lady. And she had – she had a house – a cabin – it was a real log cabin thing in there that sat just behind where Barnes – where Barnes’ property – that might be a part of his property [8 Hays Creek Road], or it might be school property, I don’t know. But her little cabin sat right in there, and it faced up toward the school. And it was just a dark little log cabin with a couple of little windows in it. Her name was Aunt Susan Porter. I’ll bet Mc [Sterrett] will remember her. She always went up to Asbury [United Methodist] Church, and so forth. And this one – these kids I’ve been telling you about – my sister, and Marjorie Ann and me – would go around there and sit on her steps, she didn’t have a porch. She just had little steps that came out. And we went around there and sat on her steps, and she just told us some of the darnedest stories that you have ever – and she was this little thing. You know, black woman, and tell the stories. She’d say, “Ooh, you know, it’s so dark outside! And I’m scared to death!” You know that kind –

Chewing: Did she scare you?

Stuart: Yes, she did. It was that kind of emotion. She’d put herself into it, you know. Well, we loved it! We really did. And then she would sing. [In a singsong voice] All of these songs, you know. [Laugh] And we just loved it. And then sometimes, she’d even ask us some Catechism questions, those kinds of things. And she was interested in what we were doing. Well, you know, I must have been in the third or fourth grade of school. I know that the new school building hadn’t been built, and we were still up there in the red building. And we played down along where her cabin was located. And then there was a little path sort of that went down and around to Mr. Dice’s house [22 Hays Creek Road]. It was Mr. Dice then. The Drivers live there now. A little path from the school that some of the kids sort of went that way. Anyway, we were up there playing [gestures to show relationship of school, path, and Aunt Susan’s] and having a good time – and I couldn’t have been in more than the third or fourth grade. And we heard this commotion. [Gives a little shriek] And of course, all the kids went out there and watched. And it was somebody like the ah – social services now, you’d call it. I don’t know what you called it then. But it was these people – and I remember two great big men. Maybe I

manufactured that, but that's what I remember. And they took that little lady out of there. And she didn't want to go. And they told her, "Well, there's not anything for you to do – else for you to do. You've got to go. You're going to Petersburg today." And she says, "Well, if I go, I'm going to come back." "Well, you're going to go." And they took her, and put her in a car or something, and we never saw any more of her.

Chewning: What was in Petersburg?

Stuart: I don't know. Must have been something like an old folks home. I don't know. That's the last we ever heard – the last we ever saw, or I ever saw, and I don't think anybody else ever heard. If they did, I would love to hear what happened to Aunt Susan.

Chewning: What was her last name?

Stuart: Aunt Susan Porter.

Chewning: And what did – had she worked at some point?

Stuart: I don't know. I don't know. I don't know. She was just there. [Laugh] I don't know. That's another – see, there was no help for people like that. Now how did that woman eat? Of course, we didn't know anything about having to buy food, because our food was always there. But where did that woman's food come from? But she was a – we just thought she was the greatest thing in the world.

Chewning: Oh, isn't that curious.

Stuart: Yeah, and she lived right back there, and nobody paid any attention. People in Brownsburg just went by. Nobody was worried about where Aunt Susan's food was coming from. [Laugh] Or anything – nobody paid any attention. Everybody just went about their own work, own jobs, and anyway. But there was Aunt Susan. But she could

really tell the stories. And real often, when we'd just walk in there, she'd be out there in her bushy yard just singing up a storm. [Laugh]

Chewning: [Laugh]

Stuart: I don't know whether she had kin people. I mean, that never occurred to us. We never wondered where she came from or where she was going. There was nobody else that was named Porter, as far as I know in Brownsburg. Now maybe, maybe Isabel – she's older than I am.

Chewning: Sites?

Stuart: Yes, that's her husband's last name. Maybe she ah – would remember something about that.

[End of Tape 1, Side B]

Stuart: But anyway, Brownsburg was an interesting place, it really was.

Chewning: What do you think about the museum?

Stuart: I think it's marvelous, just marvelous, Isabelle! You know, of course, I went through all the thing of trying to raise money and everything for the Marshall Foundation. And I know that was a completely different thing. But it does take money. And it's going to take money. Do you all have plans?

Chewning: Well, we have a fundraising committee.

Stuart: Okay.

Chewning: I don't know if you know Allen and Mary Rutherford Ferguson. They're from Richmond, but their house was on the tour two years ago. They live out – it was the house that Chunk Neal built, I think.

Stuart: Oh yeah, oh Lord yes! Yes, I remember that!

Chewning: They're our fundraising chairpeople, and they have lot of connections --

Stuart: Oh, connections, sure!

Chewning: in Richmond.

Stuart: Well now –

Chewning: Their son was the opera singer who did the concert at New Providence last year.

Stuart: Oh, yes! Golly, I loved that! That was just marvelous! And everybody loved those last songs! Do you remember that? Oh, gosh! They wouldn't let him quit!

Chewning: They ah – We have a fundraising goal of \$225,000. We think it will take about \$150,000 to get the building in shape. We have a lot of people who are kind of donating some time to work on the building. And then we'd like to raise another \$75,000 to help start to acquire things, and you know, the pieces inside, and then to fund a little endowment.

Stuart: Yes. Gosh, do you think that's enough?

Chewning: Ah, I don't know.

Stuart: Two hundred thousand dollars doesn't go very far, does it?

Chewning: No.

Stuart: Well, do you plan to keep somebody there?

Chewning: I don't think it will be a full-time staff.

Stuart: It will be a volunteer.

Chewning: A volunteer docent basis, and maybe we'll just be open on weekends.

Stuart: Yeah.

Chewning: We're not that far along yet, but we're getting ready to start putting together an Acquisitions Committee, and Tom Litzenburg from W&L with the Reeves Center is going to help us.

Stuart: Oh, my goodness.

Chewning: He's going to help get us started.

Stuart: Well, good! Where does he live?

Chewning: He's in Lexington.

Stuart: Well, I didn't think he lived out there.

Chewning: No.

Stuart: But he's just interested.

Chewning: He's interested.

Stuart: That's marvelous!

Chewning: And he's going to help us sort of get focused on what we want to collect, and what our exhibits should look like.

Stuart: Exactly! Well my gosh, you've really got the right people!

Chewning: I think we do. I don't know if you know Kathryn Mirabella. She and her husband live in Lexington now, but they're building between Brownsburg and Bustleburg. Up there – do you know where that little spring is along the road?

Stuart: Oh sure!

Chewning They're building up there above that.

Stuart: Oh, I know I them! They live right behind my friend, Marty Gansz!

Chewning Probably.

Stuart: Exactly! I just didn't recognize the name. I have met them.

Chewning She was Assistant Curator at the Diplomatic Reception Rooms at the State Department.

Stuart: Oh, my gosh!

Chewning And she's interested in doing a lot of work. She's actually gotten our oral history project jump-started. She got us some training in oral history.

Stuart: That's marvelous, for goodness sake!

Chewning But we need to call on you at some point! You have –

Stuart: Oh, I would love to help

Chewning You have so much experience –

Stuart: I really have. But anyway. I would love to do it, ah, time element. You know I let myself be elected Elder in our church.

Chewning Um hm. That's a big job.

Stuart: And I didn't realize how much – You know, Boyd had always done it, and he just was out and gone, and I didn't pay any attention. But this was the third time that they've asked me, and finally I – cause I go all the time, not that I'm a religious soul, but you know, I just go. And ah, so this time I said now, you know, it's now or never. I'm 79, how long am I going to be around?

Chewning A long time!

Stuart: Well, I hope so. But I just knew – so I said “okay, I'll do it.” So that just takes a lot of my time. So I don't know, but anyway, I'm interested in it, I surely am. And I just am pleased to death! But you all have the right people for it.

Chewning We're so lucky!

Stuart: Absolutely!

Chewning We have on the Museum Steering Committee we have Dick Barnes as the Chair.

Stuart: And he is a crackerjack! He knows this stuff! And he's raised money! Good gosh.

Chewing And then the Fergusons are – they're big money raisers in Richmond.

Stuart: Well, of course! And they've got money! Anybody that could take that house, and turn it into what they did!

Chewing And ah, Frank Parsons –

Stuart: Of course, I know Frank, for Lord's sake!

Chewing And you probably know Marsha Jones.

Stuart: Marsha, I know Marsha, absolutely.

Chewing And Marie Patterson – Marie Coleman is on the committee as sort of the educational person. To make sure that we have educational programs.

Stuart: Right.

Chewing So I think we have a really nice, well-rounded committee.

Stuart: I just think – well you do. You're just as lucky as you can be that all these people decided, you know, to bring your expertise! And look at you and your husband! Young and enthusiastic for Heaven's sake! I just think it's marvelous that you're doing it. I really do. Because it's unusual that a place like Brownsburg did not get all chopped up. Like Fairfield. It's just a blessing it's there. And it just – it just tickles me to death. You know, I was going to tell it to Catharine, that Bosworth house – I mean that house used to have a front porch all the way across [2703 Brownsburg Turnpike]. Now she says,

“Well, Lou, how did they do that with the sidewalk?” And I said “Well, the sidewalk went on the other side of it.” Because that had a porch. And just imagine how pretty that would be. I don’t know whether Catharine will ever –

Chewing I love driving by her house. She has the best geranium in the window of her house – that geranium is gorgeous.

Stuart: Well, I’m glad. You know, my geraniums – I buy six of them every year. Every year they have been so pretty. This year, I threw four of them away! So I don’t know what happened! I went to Shaner’s like I always do, and I’ve got one in bloom out there - - you’ll see when you go back out! But she keeps hers inside?

Chewing She has a big one inside. She says “I’m not a houseplant person, but my mother gave it to me, and it’s doing well in that window, so I’m just leaving there.

Stuart: Just leaving it there. I’ll be darned. Well, I remember the Bosworth’s had vines around that, and they had a swing in the back of the porch, about where that window is. And you, you stepped down to the sidewalk.

Chewing Who lived where Jo Heath lives now [2693 Brownsburg Turnpike]?

Stuart: Well, I remember one time that Osie Supinger and Mattie Wade bought it, and nobody lived in it for a while. And the Wades that I’m talking about – Margaret – Tootsie – she and her family lived in it. I think they rented it from Mattie and Osie. And then Mattie – I believe – came up there and lived all the time until she died, I think. See, I was gone by that time. And I don’t remember back before Mattie and Osie buying it and the Wades went in there. I was in there a lot when the Wades were in there. But I don’t remember anything about how it sat. But you know, the school teacher lived in there, too. I went down there to their auction sale – wonder what the heck his name was. He was the principal.

Chewning After Miss Trimmer?

Stuart: Oh yeah, long time after. Yeah, good Heavens. Ah, we were living up here – long time after that. And I don't remember his name. But he and his wife lived in that house before ah – what's her name – Heath? Before they bought it. And then it was about – it was in really bad shape. And ah, gosh, they did a beautiful job of re-doing it.

Chewning Uh huh. It looks really pretty on the outside.

Stuart: Yeah. But I'm not sure but what Miss Trimmer didn't live in that house at one time. I really am not sure. Seems to me that I can remember her coming out on the upstairs back porch. I don't know about that. Can't really remember. Mollie Sue and Fred lived in that house right across the street.

Chewning Oh, the one that –

Stuart: The Whipplés – Dorothy Whipple's always owned it.

Chewning Oh, the big square white house [2685 Brownsburg Turnpike]?

Stuart: The big square house, uh huh. And Mollie Sue and Fred lived in that a long time. And then –

Chewning While his parents were still alive and living in the –

Stuart: Yeah, uh hm. And Claudia and D.W. –

Chewning Douglas.

Stuart: Douglas. Douglas. Claudia and Douglas. Their children were born there. I keep telling Virginia who lives down below me now that I remember when her mother – we

were living in Aunt Hassie's house right across the street – her mother would go down the street, she'd carry one kid on each hip! [Laugh]

Chewning And Mrs. Whipple was little.

Stuart: Oh, yes, a tiny little person. And she had these two curly-headed little kids. But then Mollie Sue and Fred – I guess Mollie Sue and Fred moved down to the Whipple's big house when Mrs. Whipple died. She – Mollie Sue – didn't teach me, but she was a good teacher – she came over from Goshen to teach.

Chewning She was my second grade teacher.

Stuart: Was she your second grade teacher?

Chewning She was one of my favorite teachers ever!

Stuart: Oh, of course! Well she was Marjorie Ann's – one of her favorite teachers. Matter of fact, she took – it was "Pookie", "Doodie", and "Tootsie". [Laugh] They were all in her class, and she took them all over to Goshen to spend the weekend with her. Pookie, Doodie, and Tootsie! I never have been able to call Marjorie Ann "Pookie!" I just can't do it! [Laugh] And I call her Marjorie Ann, but most everybody else calls her Pookie. [Laugh]

Chewning [Laugh]

Stuart: I think that's a horrible name! But Miss Trimmer was the principal the whole time I went to school. She retired the year we graduated – in 1944. And went back down to ah – what's the name of that little place right outside of Richmond? Sandstone! But anyway, her brother lived down there. We always heard a lot about her brother, and that's where she went to spend the summers. And so when she retired that's where she went. And I talked with Jeff Swisher, who – does that name mean anything to you?

Chewing No

Stuart: Anyway, they lived over there on the creek – on Walker’s Creek. He was ahead of me in school, but anyway, I talked with him not long ago. He lives in Richmond. And he said he saw her – Miss Trimmer’s – death in the newspaper. And he said, “I was going to her funeral.” He was going by himself. And he got out there on the road someplace, and it was pouring down rain. And he didn’t really know exactly where to go. And he said, “I said to myself: ‘nobody will know me, and nobody will care.’” And so he turned around and went back home. So that’s the only way that I know that she died. But there was another strange event with Miss Trimmer. I took Marilyn Price – Marilyn’s husband is kin to all the Prices who were missionaries and so forth around here – to China and so forth. Anyway, but they had lived in California, and they came back here. And Dr. Price was the doctor at the Health Department for the county here. They lived out there on Route 11 across from where Woody’s place is. Anyway, his wife, Marilyn, had cancer, and we volunteered to take her back and forth to Roanoke to take treatments. And I was taking her down to Roanoke one day, and – this has been since I retired, because I wouldn’t have been doing it before. Anyway, we were coming out on I-581 after her treatment, and we were just yakking and talking and I said something about Miss Trimmer. And I said, “I’m sure you’ve heard about Miss Trimmer because of all the years you’ve been here, you certainly -- ” She said, “Lou, I not only have heard about Miss Trimmer, I know Miss Trimmer!” I said, “You what?” I mean, Marilyn is a little bit older than I am, but not much. And she said, “Yes, indeed.” She said, “I was -- ” This was – well, see, Miss Trimmer left school in 1944. Left Brownsburg. And she said, “I was over at the University of Virginia.” She was from upstate New York. She’d come down to the University of Virginia to go to college. And she was taking some special courses, or something. And she got to know this lady whose name was Osie Trimmer. And she said she had sort of orangy hair, and she wore it back. Well, that could be nobody else! And she said, “She was a best friend of mine.” And she said, “I was dating another guy who was going to be a lawyer, and I was dating my husband, Frank.” She dated both of them. She just couldn’t decide which one of them

she was going to marry! [Laugh] And she said, “I talked to Osie about it, and she came out, ‘There’s no question in my mind, you’re going to marry Dr. Price.’”

Chewning [Laugh]

Stuart: “You’re going to marry him!” And she said, “I did!” Now, can you believe that? I mean, what are the chances? [Laugh] I said, “Marilyn, I’m sure you’re telling the truth, but I am going to run this car off the road!” [Laugh]

Chewning [Laugh]

Stuart: So apparently, she had gone down there to live. Well, she wasn’t the kind that could sit – you know – on her butt! And she came back, Marilyn said, this lady came back to the University of Virginia, and renewed her certificate. And Marilyn just happened to meet her, and there she was. Isn’t that unbelievable? I mean, these things just happen all the time! [Laugh] I don’t know why I remember all this stuff. But there it was. I could not believe it when Marilyn told me that.

Chewning That’s amazing.

Stuart: So I’ll bet you she taught school until she died. Because she was so used to being in charge. I mean, she couldn’t go and sit down. She’s like me. I mean I had to keep – I learned to play golf, I got a computer, you know, I’ve got to do things!

Chewning Right. Yep. Yep.

Stuart: None of them I do well, but I can’t help it, I just can’t sit still. So I can understand why she would do that. And Marilyn – she’s a cute little lady, she still is. I hope you meet Marilyn, and I’m sure you will. Get all this thing going, because she’s interested in Brownsburg, and so forth. But ah, she’s the one, she used to – she said she used to have all sorts of allergies when she was a kid. And she couldn’t do things like

play sports and all that because of these allergies – and so she started doing physical exercises and that sort of stuff and did them all of her life. And when the physical stuff started coming around, she started doing that at our church. And just about every woman who's ever been through the Presbyterian Church has taken Marilyn's exercise classes.

Chewning Oh.

Stuart: It's just unbelievable. And Dr. Price retired a few years ago. And I took them, twice a week. You had to be there at eight o'clock. And she's like Miss Trimmer, man, she didn't mean eight-thirty! She meant eight! [Laugh] You'd be there at eight, and you'd get your stuff down, and your clothes on, and you were ready to go at eight-thirty! And it was just marvelous, she was great at it. She did it every Tuesday and Friday. So when he retired, he asked her to retire, too, because he said, you know they have five kids all over, and he wanted her to be free to go and so forth. So she did. But in the meantime, she made us a tape, and we do the tape. And for some reason, guess who picked it up. See, I can't keep my mouth shut, Isabelle! [Laugh]

Chewning You haven't learned to sit on your hands?

Stuart: Anyway, so we go every Tuesday. And she says she does them at home. When she's there she does them on Tuesday and does the same thing. And one time we lost our tape, and she did another one for us.

Chewning That's how you're staying young!

S; Well, it really does, it really helps. Now this summer, we're not – we didn't do it July and August because they had to do the air conditioning up there, and that was expensive. And then Doug, bless his heart. He's the sexton at our church, and he is the – you know Doug Stevenson? He lives down there, you know the alley that comes – goes down where Frances and Ruth [Craney] lived – in Brownsburg [2650 Brownsburg Turnpike]?

Chewning Oh, right.

Stuart: Down there. He lives down there with his mother in a house trailer or something. Well, I think Isabel Sites is his aunt.

Chewning So he –

Stuart: He's the sexton of our church. He's marvelous! He's the greatest thing! And he goes in and turns the air conditioning on, and puts our chairs in every Tuesday and Friday. And he's just great. And after the fire we couldn't have done it without Doug, and our young minister. The fact that we had a young minister. Ah, but anyway, Doug is just great. His mother married Isabel's brother, and he kind of was a ne'er do well. But she – his mother – is just really a marvelous person – she worked for Randall and his wife.

Chewning I don't know who that is.

Stuart: So we stopped having classes because we weren't having but four or five, and it wasn't – because people go away in the summer it wasn't worth it. But that's the first time, because we've always had it right on through the summer and everything. And it really does help, it makes you feel better.

Chewning That's great, you're doing it twice a week.

Stuart: Yes, twice a week, and it just – it's real aerobics. I mean, because she says that's the only thing that's kept her alive because she had so many allergies and that kind of stuff. But anyway, it was a great thing. Ah, and, and it's amazing, a lot of these ladies who are 85, now 90, say, "Well, gosh, I took Marilyn's exercise class." So it – Marilyn – I mean Mary Brady – she must be 90. Who knows. She took it! She took it! All these ladies did. Of course, I was working, and I didn't even have time to think about it, but boy, the minute I retired, I got in it.

Chewning Mary Brady does flowers at the Jackson House once a week.

Stuart: Yeah, yeah, I know. She really is something, and in the summertime, she lives out there in that great old big house all by herself. I wouldn't live out there if she'd give it to me! Ooh, it's too big! By herself! I mean, this house is big for me. Imagine, living in it. It's old – of course they did a beautiful job of re-doing it. But she does come in now and live in her house here in the summer – I mean in the winter. So she doesn't have to move snow. But her daughter says – her daughter lives in California now – and she says she's coming back and going to live out there someday.

Chewning I met her at the Jackson House one day this summer. She and her daughter were here going to horse camp at the Horse Center.

Stuart: Yeah, exactly, right. Right. I'll show you a picture in here that she did. I think that's the last time I saw her, too, and the daughter's as big as she is.

Chewning I didn't see the daughter.

Stuart: You didn't see the daughter? Yeah, the daughter was with her at church. But anyway, it's been an interesting ride. It really has! [Laugh] It really has. And I get myself in some of the darndest, darndest things. But I keep moving!

Chewning Good for you!

Stuart: Gotta keep moving, I really do!

Chewning That's the secret, I think.

Stuart: Yeah, and I, you know, I think always going to New Providence. That was marvelous for a kid like me. I mean, I loved going to Massanetta. I went to Massanetta

every year on up until I went to the Pioneers and then I went to whatever the next one was. I guess I was about ready to graduate from high school. And my sister went one time.

Chewing She didn't want to go back?

Stuart: No sir! She didn't like that thing. And Mildred Carwell went one year, and you know, Mildred was a little bit older than I was. I mean, I didn't think Mildred would have any problem, but she was the most homesick thing you ever saw. She never would go back. But I loved Massanetta! I had the best time every year. And that was all New Providence, I'd have never gone otherwise. And then I got to know all the Timber Ridge people, because they stayed in the same – we stayed in their cabin. The church was always important – and Mother and Dad went all the time, you know. And it was always just an annex of our life. I mean, the Chrysanthemum Show! I mean, my gosh, I'm sure you've heard your parents – well, maybe not your parents, but Mary and Mc talk about the Chrysanthemum Show. We had a Chrysanthemum Show that was a show! And all of us kids raised chrysanthemums, and then took them out there. And I remember one Chrysanthemum Show that we had was unusual. I don't know who – I guess Dr. Hanna was still there. And ah, Mary Lotts – I don't know if you remember her, but anyway, she was another character. She sewed all the time. And she took one of our Sunday School rooms upstairs that has those little catechism rooms.

Chewing Um hmm.

Stuart: And made little shows. Put a thing in, and made little shows. And the one that sticks in my mind was because my sister had a Shirley Temple doll that was about that big. And they asked her if they could use her doll for the bride. And they did a bride and groom, and Mary made all of the clothes for the bride. Just gorgeous! The woman could sew like you wouldn't believe! And made – and used somebody's doll and made a tuxedo for him. It was so pretty that it sticks in my mind. And then they had flowers all around that. And they did little windows in all that Sunday School room. The one at the

top of the top floor. And all of us kids used to start our chrysanthemums, and then we would have them all to bring out there in the fall to the Chrysanthemum Show. And then we all had to recite our catechisms. The Child's Catechism and the Shorter. And by that time, we were ready to help somebody teach Sunday School or sing in the choir. And Randall told me that he remembered New Providence at the time – his mother – you know who I'm talking about [Sallie D. Wade]?

Chewning Um hmm. She taught me piano.

Stuart: Okay. All right. Of course, okay. Well, his mother came over here from someplace else, Charlottesville or somewhere to teach school in Brownsburg, and met his father. And that's when they bought this home place out there on Goose Creek. And now what was I beginning to tell you, for Lord's sake? Hmm.

Chewning You were talking about the choir.

Stuart: Oh, yes, the church, of course! All right. Then, when Mrs. Wade – see Mrs. Wade was a big musician. And Mr. Wade had a gorgeous singing voice, apparently, I don't remember him. Randall's father. And they had special people who could come and sing in the choir. You had to be – [laugh] You had to have special friends.

Chewning Oh, you mean you had to audition for the choir back then?? [Laugh]

Stuart: Yeah. At New Providence, you couldn't just come and decide that you wanted to participate. You couldn't do that. I mean, I didn't know any of that until Randall told me, and Randall was ten years older than I was. And I'm sure he got all this from his mother. You know, just the hoi peloi couldn't come and sing! [Laugh] And I just couldn't believe that, but apparently it was true.

Chewning Wow.

Stuart: It really was. But by the time I came along, see, everybody was welcome. Elsie Wade used to play the organ. Then she went off and married somebody. But she wasn't married at that time. And she and ah – oh, gosh – Miss Carrie – Miss Carrie Lucas who lived down in Newport, the two of them went with us to Massanetta all the time, and they were our chaperones. And then for some reason, I got in the choir, and I don't know, maybe Mc [Sterrett] got in the choir. Mc was working on the farm, I don't imagine he went to Massanetta.

Chewning I don't think I've ever heard him talk about it.

Stuart: I bet he – he would've talked about it. Richard – the Beards went all the time and they were on the farm. But all three [Richard, Donald, and Kenneth] of them went. But anyway, I don't remember Mc, so maybe – he probably didn't go. But anyway, but then, you know, they sort of let the bar down. And I remember they let some people in. They got in the choir. Monotone! I never in my life heard anybody else who was a true monotone. [Laugh] I couldn't, I just – that was just beyond me. But anyway, also, the other was beyond me, too. I mean, I never felt any of that in New Providence, you know. But I'm sure it had been there. It had been there over the years. And of course, you know that the Black people sat up on the balcony. But that's where they wanted to sit, you know. They didn't have any desire to sit any place else. But they felt they were a member of New Providence, too. And talking about Dad and the bus. We didn't at that time – I guess they had sold the car in order to buy the bus. Anyway, we – Dad, I guess arranged with the church – he must have gotten paid, or he wouldn't have done it just for free. But he drove that bus on out towards your house [2249 Sterrett Road] and on up by Bud Martin's [146 McClure Boulevard] and on back the way we used to run the farm [Davis Road], and back down Goose Creek, all the way down Goose Creek every Sunday.

Chewning Oh, to pick up people to go to church?

Stuart: Yeah, and all of those Shulls. Do you remember the Shulls? Richard still auctioneers. Richard was a grandchild, but he lived there. And Mr. and Mrs. Shull, the older people, they all came out. I remember them all coming out and getting on the bus and going to church. And he picked up a full load. Now, like I said, we never talked about money at home because there was never any! But apparently they paid him – he couldn't have done it, I'm sure, without being paid. But I remember even Mr. Houston. He had to walk, gosh, about a quarter of a mile up that road. He was an older man, and he had a farm out there, a beautiful big house, and he walked up there and met us. Met that bus and went to New Providence every Sunday. We took a lot of people, and then when they had -- what did they call evangelical meetings?

Chewing Oh, revival meetings?

Stuart: Revival meetings. When they had those, Dad took the bus. And then he did it to Bible School. So you see, we just spent a lot of time as sort of – now, Marjorie Ann and them never went to church. I don't want to say why. But anyway, most everybody else did. Anyway, it was a big part of our lives, and because Mother and Dad were into it. And Dad was always an Elder or Deacon or something. And of course, they didn't allow women to do it at that time. You had to be in church and keep your mouth shut! [Laugh] So anyway, we were busy all the time. We really were. And gosh, some of the ministers we'd get were amazing. I told somebody down at our church the other day, I just couldn't believe it. Here we were, backwoods Presbyterians, but we always had Doctors. Preachers with DD, or PhD – not PhD, but whatever it is in their name. I wrote them down, the ones that I knew. Dr. C. Morton Hanna. And then of course, they had a bunch of children, like four. And Edwin Bell was in my class at school, so I got to know him – that was the reason I knew the Hannas. And the Walthals came, and they were young, real young, and had a couple of young children. And then when the war came along, he went into the military. But he had a DD. And then Dr. White came. And of course, Dick was in my class and graduated with us. When the class of 1944 celebrated our fiftieth anniversary in 2004, Dick came back. It was, of course, after Boyd's death, and that made it so hard for me because I knew he would have had a great time. However, I

was the President of the class – so I soldiered on. Anyway, Dick came. First time any of us had seen Dick since we graduated. But anyway, he said that he came from a bigger school where people just did as they wanted to. Well, he came to Brownsburg, and he said, “You all were still marching into school with a drum! I couldn’t believe you had this drum that I had to march to!” [Laugh] And he was exactly right, we did! Miss Trimmer had us marching in to that drum! And anyway, Dr. Hutcheson, and you remember Dr. [Richard G.] Hutcheson.

Chewning Uh hmm.

Stuart: His children, well, Nancy was the youngest, she was younger than I am. The boys were gone. But I did get to know Dick Hutcheson who preached at the Presbyterian Church in Buena Vista, so I got to know them after, you know, we came up here. So anyway, the Hutchesons were the last that I knew out there. But I did get to meet that young man that everybody was crazy about. And I think he left and went to Ohio.

Chewning Oh, John Lewis?

Stuart: John Lewis, yes. I got to meet him, and I liked him and his wife. They used to have lunch in here – this was after I retired at one of the restaurants.

Chewning She was a lawyer and worked in town.

Stuart: Exactly, she was. And she helped draw up Randall’s will. And I get accused so often of going down and telling him what to do. I didn’t even know he was doing it. I mean, and, but you know, it’s like that Senator that we sent up to Washington one time and he got voted the dumbest Senator in the Senate. And what do you say after that? I mean, if somebody thought I told him what to do, I mean how would I contradict that, so I just tried to drop it. I didn’t even know that. But I had met John’s wife, but not down there. But he always came to the luncheons, or dinners or whatever they called it. And so I really enjoyed that. Of course I went with Randall, that’s why I was there.

Chewing Oh, it was when the “High Nooners” met there?

Stuart: Or whatever they called themselves. That’s exactly what it was, and I went with them. And I really enjoyed him. One time we were sitting out there just talking and yakking, and he was talking about the fees that he charged and so forth. And I just said [laugh] “What do you charge to marry somebody?” And oh gosh [laugh] I mean the whole place went up! And it didn’t even enter –

Chewing [Laugh]

Stuart: Thinking about it for gosh sakes! I was not going to marry. Well – is it on?

Chewing It’s on. [Turns tape off] [Turns tape on] We were talking about Randall Wade.

Stuart: Exactly. I was talking to Ed one day. It was probably when I took stuff that I gave him from Dad’s office down there. And he said, “You know, I think you really ought to put some kind of a plaque or something in the cemetery because as far – I get so many people coming and asking me if I know where somebody’s buried and so forth.” And he said, “It will be just like they never lived.” Because both of them were cremated, you see. And I thought that was real thoughtful of Ed, I really did. Because it just hadn’t entered my mind. And I said, “Well, of course I’ll do it.” Because when you’re in the military – I had done this for Boyd – you can get a plaque-thing from the military for free. It doesn’t cost you anything. You just fill this form out. And with Boyd, it only took about a month, and that thing came in, and then I had Hamric’s make one for me as near to that, and so both of them are in the cemetery. And Ed said, “Well, you know how to do it, how about your doing it?” And he said, “We’ll put it on Mrs. Wade’s lot, there’s a lot of room left, and we’ll put it on there and everybody will know.” So that is exactly what I did. But, it took over a year for it to come. So many World War II guys were dying, you see. And it took over a year to get it. And I had said, “Well, we’ll just have a

little ceremony in the graveyard.” But after a year, it just seemed to me like too much time had passed since his death. I didn’t want to do it. So I just had Charlie take it out there, and it’s on the Wade’s lot. And it’s his birth – his and his wife’s birthday and when they died, and when they were married and so forth. I really thank Ed.

Chewing That was a good thing to do.

Stuart: Yes, I thanked Ed real often for that because that was a thoughtful thing. I was just too busy I suppose to think of it – I don’t know what I was doing, but I’m sure it was terribly important! [Laugh]

Chewing [Laugh]

Stuart: And it just didn’t [laugh] even enter my mind. But that’s exactly right. Nobody would have ever known that the two of them lived. They didn’t have any children, and both of them were cremated. But anyway, I’m real proud of that. I was out there at the cemetery last Saturday. Jimbo [Stuart’s son] married Nancy Hall from across – from Buckingham County. And her father and all of them had been over in Buckingham forever. He recently found a whole thing that had been written by one of his aunts way back there some place. And he found out that he had some relatives buried in New Providence church – in New Providence cemetery. And he found out some of his relatives who lived in Buckingham came over here where the Moneymakers live – where the Browns had established a school, Bellevue. They came over here to go to school – at that school. Anyway, we took the cemetery book that those girls did and found where it was. And Nancy’s father and a friend of his, and Nancy had been over here before, and we had found it. But we took the book and went out there again, and we said, “Well, how in the world did we find that thing?” And finally we did, and we found it. It said it was Row 40, but I said, “It’s not marked!” But we must have counted them off before.

Chewing It’s hard, yeah. We need to get some kind of row markers out there.

Stuart: Row markers. That's what we need. But apparently Tom, Nancy's father, had sense enough to count it from the bottom. And we knew it was back in the old cemetery along there, and we found it. We found it. We found it both times. So anyway, that's interesting. And like Ed said, you know, somebody might come along looking for the Wades – well, where's Randall? Of course, John [Wade], I guess, is buried up in Northern Virginia someplace, and there were just two of them. I'm so pleased, and I told Ed every time I saw him after that that I was so glad he thought of that. So that was done. He said, "Look, I've got the idea, but you do the work!" [Laugh] I said, I believe this is where I came in! Seems to be my forte, I do the work!

Chewning That's a good way to be.

Stuart: Well, you know, I just like doing things. I do. Randall left instructions in his will that his body was to be cremated and the ashes taken to the beach on the Chesapeake Bay. This we did. I invited a group to go with me, including Deb Klein who was the interim minister at his church – New Providence – and my minister's wife. Deb [Klein] was just marvelous, she really was. And she got the scripture and read it, and I put the ashes out, and everybody had flowers and things and so forth, put it out on the water. The guys on the pier were fine with it. They see people doing it every day. And so, it was unbelievable. He said that that's where they used to fish, off of that pier. They lived down there for so long, you know, and they fished off of that pier. And that was just important, and he said even back when he was still in the Navy, his wife would go down there and fish, and she would see his ship coming up the Bay. And then she would be home by the time he would come in. You know, it's just unbelievable. But gosh, he went in the Navy in '36. He graduated from high school in 1936. And was in – and I just wish that there had been somebody doing this before he died. You see, he went all through the war.

[End of Tape 2, Side A]

[Interviewer's note: I did not notice that we had reached the end of the tape. When I realized it had run out, I turned it over. Stuart was recalling going to Business School in

Lynchburg. She had planned to go to Charlottesville to nursing school, but had been recruited for business school in Lynchburg, and when the tape picks up, she is talking about a man who had come to drive her to school.]

Stuart: Mother was right there. And Dad. I got right in the car with that man, went back to Lynchburg. They lived out near Randolph Macon Women's College. They had a house near Rivermont Avenue, and I stayed with them until a room came available where Ann was living. And I helped Mrs. Miller dust and do all those great things. [Laugh] And then, I went back and lived where Ann was living then. See we didn't have Typing at Brownsburg. I didn't even know what a typewriter looked like. And I was fascinated, I liked typing – and shorthand, I loved shorthand. They had some really good teachers over there. And I got to like all the girls who were living with us. I stayed until I graduated. And then I – you don't remember Anna Margaret Powell, I'm sure, but she and her parents lived out at Wade's Mill. They lived where Jimmy and Blair live now [73 Kennedy – Wade's Mill Loop]. Mr. Powell worked for Mr. Wade all the time. Anna Margaret had graduated with my brother a year ahead of me in school, and she and I were great buds. We dated boys together and stuff. She couldn't decide what she was going to do, so she was working down at one of those plants in Waynesboro. I've forgotten which one. I called her, and told her about this fun that I was having over there, and she said, "Well you know, I think that would be great fun!" So she came over there, she got there about like I did! [Laugh] And then in the meantime, Winston [Wade] came back from the Service. Mr. Wade was going to retire from the mill, and Winston, I guess had married Jane, and they were going to live in the big house, and I guess the Wades then went to Raphine and bought that gorgeous house. Okay. But anyway, and Winston wanted Mr. Powell, of course, to keep on working because he worked for his daddy forever. Mr. Powell said, "No. I will not work for anybody who's younger than I am." And he meant it – he was serious. He would not. So he went over to Craigsville. He found people who owned a flour mill and there was a house that they lived in close to the mill. I think it was the Ramsey's Mill. And they made flour, just like the Wades. So he and Mrs. Powell moved over to Craigsville while Anna Margaret was in Lynchburg. And she was an only child. She just didn't want to go to Craigsville, of course she didn't.

And she'd come home – when we came home for the weekend, she always came to my house. I mean, she was not going to Craigsville. She did not like Craigsville at all. She wasn't going. Well, she didn't like shorthand, so she took the bookkeeping part of it. And that was her forté. So – and she really excelled, she sailed through that. And anyway – she was looking at staying in Lynchburg. And she was going to work for one of the car companies. She already had this job. But somehow, she began to think a little more of that, because all of the people she knew were going to leave. And she just would be left over there, and she didn't know about working in that car place where they sold cars, and so forth. So she thought maybe she ought to go home and kind of see if she liked Craigsville. [Laugh] So she loved Craigsville, and married Walter Ramsey whose family owned a large farm near Craigsville for generations. She did work for a car place over there, 35 or 40 years. And then Mr. Powell died, and Mrs. Powell moved from the mill down to a little place in Craigsville. Walter died, but Anna Margaret and her son and her son's wife are all still living in on the farm in Marvel Valley. [Laugh] She loved Craigsville, and got to know everybody, and I used to visit her all the time. We used to ride bicycles before I got married, and all that kind of stuff. But Anna Margaret is still over there, and I'm going to see her this summer if it kills me. She came when Boyd died, and she came to the party when I retired, and she came to Patty's wedding [Stuart's daughter]. But I never seem – for some reason I never seem to get over there. But ah –

Chewing You'd better hurry up if you're going to get there this summer! This summer's almost over!

Stuart: I know it! [Laugh] Exactly! It is fall! And I'd planned to go in early spring when it would be pretty in Goshen Pass. And I was going to take a couple of girls who didn't know anything about Goshen Pass. I never got there!

Chewing I know. I have good intentions, too.

Stuart: So do I! I just have all these things I want to do, and I just am going to do it! But anyway, that's the way I got over there [to Lynchburg], and Boyd Stuart wouldn't let me alone! [Laugh]

Chewning [Laugh]

Stuart: He said, "Lou, you don't have to go to Charlottesville and become a nurse. Marry me, and we'll be fine." I still wanted to go! But I gave it up. So – [laugh] here I am! [Laugh] Oh, Lord, I think it was all for the best, though.

Chewning Uh hm.

Stuart: I don't know. But sometimes, when Mother was sick for so long, my sister said "See! See! Why didn't you go over there, then you'd have known what to do!" [Laugh] But anyway.

Chewning It's funny how things work out.

Stuart: It is. It's amazing. You just – you know, and like I have said so often, the silly little decisions that you make. I mean like getting in that car with that man! [Laugh] Changed my life completely! [Laugh] Oh Lord, didn't even give it a second thought! I just knew I was going somewhere, it didn't matter where! [Laugh] But you know, things were so different then, and you know you didn't have to sweat getting in anywhere. I mean, I did have Latin. Now Blair Terrell told me – Blair Wade – that that's the reason she went down to Portsmouth [to nursing school] because she didn't take Latin in high school. And you had to have Latin in order to go to nurse's training. And Portsmouth was one place you didn't have to, and that's why she went down there and went in training.

Chewning Oh.

Stuart: But see, I had my Latin. I had three years of Latin Miss Trimmer taught. That's another thing she did – she taught Latin! Three years of Latin, and we read Caesar. I mean to tell you – in Latin! At this little bumpkin high school over here!

Chewning She must have been amazing.

Stuart: She was. It was unbelievable. It really was. Now, the only person I ever heard anybody say anything about her was Jimmy Wade. He said, “Lou, you know I know all those things are right, and she was marvelous and all that.” But he said, “You know there were so many people – kids who quit school because she demanded so much, and they couldn't get it.” And she had no patience with anybody who couldn't get it. And Jimmy's right. I know people who did that. The people who needed it most were the people who quit. But she was demanding – she really was! If you wanted to learn – you learned. There were no two ways about it. If you decided to take Latin, you were going to speak Latin. [Laugh] She was truly a Renaissance lady.

Chewning [Laugh]

Stuart: Oh Lord! She was something! She really was. Yep, we had three years of Latin.

Chewning Oh, my goodness.

Stuart: Yeah. And see, I was much more interested in Latin than I was math. I didn't care a thing about math; it didn't interest me at all. But Mrs. Rosenell Patterson was a marvelous math teacher. Boyd said he knew as much as any of those college guys. I mean –

Chewning Brownsburg has a sort of a tradition of good education.

Stuart: Absolutely! Absolutely! There's just no question about it. And of course, that one teacher – I don't know if Mc had her I'm sure he remembers her – Miss Halterman. Have you ever heard him talk about Miss Halterman?

Chewing No.

Stuart: I never had her, but she taught Boyd something like – some kind of science. When they cut up frogs, and that kind of stuff.

Chewing Biology? When you dissect frogs?

Stuart: Biology. Yeah. Biology. And Marjorie Ann [Whitesell] who was three or four years behind had her for Biology. Both of them took Biology, see that doesn't interest me because I wouldn't have done that for anything.

Chewing But you wanted to be a nurse!

Stuart: [Laugh] I wanted to be a nurse! Oh Lord! Anyway. That's right! Why did they want you to have Latin instead of Biology? Oh, gosh! Well anyway, they were both in Miss Halterman's class. Not at the same time, but at different times. And we used – after we were all married, we used to flock around together. All kinds – I mean, we took trips to Nova Scotia and every place. Anyway, you haven't lived until you've heard Boyd and Marjorie Ann talk about Miss Halterman! [Laugh] I mean, that is a show! That was a real show when those two got together! Anyway, one story, and I told this at the last high school reunion that we had – and this is Boyd's story because I didn't have Miss Halterman. She was sort of an old-looking woman, and she wore her clothes all kind of floppy, and wore dark dresses, you know. They said she wore the same old dress all the time, I don't know whether she did or not! [Laugh] But they said she had a PhD. So she wasn't dumb. But somehow something happened to her mind, and somebody said she wound up in Western State, I don't know. But anyway, she taught up there for four or five years. But to my story – one of the Swisher boys – Henny Swisher. That's all

that family – he’s next to the youngest. He was in that class. He was in my brother’s class, but he was taking Biology with Boyd. Yeah, it was Biology because they had to draw the things, you know. Anyway, Henny was in there, and Boyd passed work – he drew his thing and wrote his story and did it all right, and turned it in, and he got an A+ on his. Well, Henny hadn’t turned his in. [Laugh] He said, “Boyd, let me have yours. Let me have yours!” So Boyd gave it to him. He erased the grade, and erased Boyd’s name, put his name on it – these were juniors and seniors in high school! Put Boyd’s name on it and passed it in to Miss. Halterman. Well. It came back with a “C” – with a “C” on it! [Laugh]

Chewning [Laugh]

Stuart: And it didn’t stop there. Henny took it and said, “Miss. Halterman, now this is the same paper [laugh] this is the same paper that Boyd Stuart passed in. Now see right there’s his name, right where I erased it! [Laugh] And you gave him an A+. See, you can see it right there. [Laugh] You gave him an A+, and you gave me a C. Now I want to know why.” She said “ Okay. Oh, okay, okay, okay, okay.” And she gave him an A+. I mean, that story never ended! [Laugh]

Chewning [Laugh]

Stuart: Oh, my gosh!. I told that thing, and I said I’m going to give the credit for this story to Boyd Stuart, it’s his story! [Laugh] But Henny Swisher said it was true. I saw Henny Swisher after Boyd died. He said, well, it sure as hell was his idea, it sure as hell was true! [Laugh] Oh, Lordy! But there was just story after story when Marjorie Ann and Boyd got together. And one of them would say, “Oh, that reminds me – she did -- ” [Laugh] But the only one I remember was the one with Henny Swisher. [Laugh] I mean, that just [laugh] kills me!

Chewning: [Laugh]

Stuart: Unbelievable! In the first place, he should have been expelled, and Boyd for giving it to him! I mean – [laugh] Oh Lord have mercy! But they said – and I’ve heard them laugh about they used to lock each other in the closet, and she’d come in and say “Now where is such-and-such?” They’d say, “Well, he’s in the closet.” “Well what is he doing in there?” [Laugh] Not ever “Don’t ever do that!” you know, just “What is he doing in the closet?” [Laugh] Oh, my gosh! Anyway –

Chewning: What a crowd!

Stuart: What a crowd is exactly right! Oh, Lord. [Laugh] But boy, you didn’t do that in Miss Trimmer’s classes. Whoa. Ah – Carl Newcomer took Latin one year with me. And I tell you, Miss Trimmer spent half of every class jumping on him. He never – he never did what he was supposed to do. [Laugh] He just knew he was going to get it. I talked to him just recently. He still remembers it. But he hung in there! He didn’t quit. [Laugh]

Chewning: Good for him. Wow.

Stuart: But anyway.

Chewning: Well, I’d probably better go.

[End of tape 2, Side B]

[Follow-up interview: September 27, 2006, Tape 3, Side A]

Chewning: This is Wednesday, September 27. I’m Isabelle Chewning, and I’m interviewing Lou Wiseman Stuart again. A follow-up interview, and she has, hopefully, some more good stories to share with us. Do you have some more stories for us today?

Stuart: [Laugh] Yes, I think so.

Chewning: Good!

Stuart: We will just go from here!

Chewning: I'm going to try to watch the time this time and make sure that the tape doesn't run over.

Stuart: [Laugh] Okay. Alrighty. Well, one fun story. We were talking about some of the things that we did in Brownsburg. Young people did. There was no television, my gosh, there was no computer, there was none of those things, so what on earth did we do? Well, this was a time that we lived at Aunt Hassie's [2682 Brownsburg Turnpike] which is just below, just beside the Whitesell's, and just as you go up to the school. The house was there. So anyway, my brother was – he must have been a sophomore or junior in high school. So he decided that he, like all kids, that he had to have a car. So he went out and bought himself – I think it was a Model T. He worked some for the Pattersons, Ed Patterson's family on the farm, so he must have had some money. So he went out and bought himself this Model T Ford. And then he and his friends would work all week on that car to get it going so they would have it on Sunday to drive around [laugh].

Chewning: [Laugh]

Stuart: And he had the car painted, and then he named it. And the name of that car was Eliza-beth. [Accent is on the second syllable.] Not Elizabeth – Eliza-beth. So he had –

Chewning: How do you spell it?

Stuart: It's E – L – I – Z – A – B – E – T – H. But he had the name printed across the front of it, and then he had a long mark across the B – E – T – H.

Chewning: Oh.

Stuart: [Laugh] And that made it Eliza-beth. So that was Eliza-beth. Well anyway, goodness, I remember, I remember Sam Patterson, and he – Carl kept it in the lot between John Layton’s [Whitesell] house and our house. And so his friends would come up there, and some of them were mechanical, and some just came to have a good time. [Laugh]

Chewning: [Laugh]

Stuart: So anyway, I remember Sam Patterson – I think I can remember Ed Patterson coming. And Leonard Tolley from the other way. I mean, he came a long way. And you know, Richard Beard – I was talking to Richard when Carl died, and Richard said, “You know what? I really remember coming up there and working on that car that Carl had.”

Chewning: Eliza-beth. [Laugh]

Stuart: Eliza-beth. [Laugh] I didn’t remember too much about Richard. And some of these guys just came to see if they could get a date for Sunday as well as a car! [Laugh]

Chewning: [Laugh]

Stuart: I accused Richard of that! But anyway, and I think Henny [Swisher] came, and the Carwell boys. There were three or four of the Carwell boys. Well most of them were mechanically inclined –

Chewning: Oh, right.

Stuart: -- so they would come, you know. And some – every afternoon after school there was somebody out there helping Carl work on Eliza-beth. [Laugh] So they could get – have it all primed up for Sunday! [Laugh]

Chewning: [Laugh] And whoever worked the hardest got to ride in it?

Stuart: That's exactly right! Or whoever got a date that Carl approved of or could get her sister! [Laugh]

Chewning: Oh, I see! [Laugh]

Stuart: That was the deal, too, you see! I don't know where in the world they got the money for the gas to put in the thing. But that's what they did, and I just – gosh, my sister and I had a good – and Marjorie Ann, we all had a good time too, out there. But we didn't know too much about cars.

Chewning: Well, with all the boys there, I guess you did!**Error! Bookmark not defined.**

Stuart: We knew the boys! [Laugh] We knew about boys anyway! And then another thing that we did real often was – when Mollie Sue and Fred lived in that square house right at the foot of the place that you go up to the school [2685 Brownsburg Turnpike].

Chewning: Um hm.

Stuart: I think they moved in there soon after they were married. Anyway, I don't know whether the croquet set was theirs. I assume it was [laugh], I don't know. I don't remember. But I assume it was their croquet set. So they put it up there on the side yard. And of course, any of us just went over there and played croquet just like it belonged to us! [Laugh]

Chewning: [Laugh]

Stuart: And any time we could conjure anybody, three or four into playing, off we went and played croquet. And this particular – I don't know whether it was a weekday, or a

Sunday or something. Anyway, John Layton [Whitesell] came along with us to play croquet. And Marjorie Ann [Whitesell], my sister, Frances, and me, and that's – I don't know if I can remember. That's about all, I think, who were playing this particular day. Anyway, we were all having the greatest time, and John Layton – who was ever the joker – began to name us – give us all nicknames. You know. My nickname was "Leviticus" of all things. [Laugh]

Chewning: [Laugh]

Stuart: And I guess it was just because it started – my name started with an "L". So it was Leviticus! And he said, he'd say, "Okay, Leviticus, it's your time to go." Anyway, and I don't even remember what Marjorie Ann's was, maybe she'll remember. But my sister's was "Peeva Julius".

Chewning: [Laugh] Peeva Julius?

Stuart: Peeva Julius. And that was because she was so tiny. And he was sort of hooking it up with "Pee Wee". And then it just got all wound up. Well, somehow, somebody shortened that name to "Jude." From "Peeva Julius" to "Jude". And from that day – that stuck. It was absolutely unbelievable – it stuck. And from that day to this, everybody who was real close to her called her "Jude."

Chewning: I knew you had said "Jude" last time, and I'm happy to know the story of how she got that name. [Laugh]

Stuart: That is the story. It's unbelievable. But that's what we did. And then a lot of times we played croquet also over in Mrs. Morris' yard [2671 Brownsburg Turnpike]. I mean, there was a beautiful yard over there. And maybe, I don't know how we decided one yard or the other. But see, the ones on our side, the yards on our side went down to the creek so you couldn't play. [laugh]

Chewning: [Laugh]

Stuart: It wasn't flat enough! So we had to conjure up somebody else's yard to play croquet. Anyway, we had lots and lots of fun. Ah, another thing about my sister's nickname, ah, I think she kind of liked it. She didn't fuss about it to anybody, you know, calling her that. In fact, we all did. Even Mother and Dad wound up calling her that. Ah, and then after she was married, and she – well after she learned to drive, she bought herself a car. My goodness, this was years later. And you could put the licenses – the numbers on – whatever you wanted, you know. And so she put “JUDE M”. And of course, she had married Tinker Moore, and her husband's – her name was Moore. So it was JUDE M. And she said they were having a picnic – all the Post Office people were having a picnic out at Robertson Lake. And the Lackey boy – Fred – Fred Lackey who worked at the Post Office too was just driving behind them all the way out to Robertson Lake. And he got out there, he said he couldn't wait to get out there. So he got – went over to Jude and said, “Frances, what in the world is judem?” [Laugh]

Chewning: [Laugh]

Stuart: “What in the world is judem?” [Laugh] So she told him. But anyway, that's how she got the name.

Chewning: That's a good story.

Stuart: [Laugh]

Chewning: You're going to have to think of Marjorie Ann's name, though.

Stuart: Yes.

Chewning: Or I'll have to ask her.

Stuart: Yeah. [Laugh] I don't know if she'll remember her name or not, but I bet she will! And then, this was another thing that happened. I guess – let's see. I must have been a sophomore, in high school. And we were still living at the same place. And ah, I don't know why, I guess – I guess Aunt Hassie had a – had a cistern. And she didn't get the town water. I mean, you know, she was kind of a “do it my way” kind of person.
[Laugh]

Chewning: [Laugh]

Stuart: And she was – she was my father's aunt, so she'd be my great aunt. Anyway, ah, in the kitchen, she had one of those pitcher pumps. Do you know what a pitcher pump is?

Chewning: Um hm.

Stuart: You see them in antique stores. And you pump the water up.

Chewning: Right.

Stuart: Well, she had that in the kitchen. And we were – we had the whole house then. And the Carwell girls came up one afternoon. I think it was Helen – Helen was still here. You probably don't remember Helen because she went to Ohio. And she died up there. But she was one of the older ones. And then Mildred was – had started to school in my class. But anyway, Helen was older than she. And Catherine might have been with them. I don't remember whether Catherine was with them or not. Catherine was younger. Anyway, they just came up to visit one Sunday afternoon, and back then, it was a real big deal, you know these senior boys would get their high school rings. Well. Of course, the next thing you'd do, some girl would try to con them [laugh] out of their high school ring. And boy, back then, you just bought one. If you got money to buy one, you were doing great. Well anyway, I was dating this boy. He was Doris Blackwell's

[Lunsford's] brother. And he was a senior in high school. And Miss Trimmer took a very dim view of that.

Chewning: [Laugh]

Stuart: There were three – three of us sophomore girls who were dating senior boys. And she let Mother and Dad know she didn't think too much of that. But anyway, I got his ring, his high school ring. It was way yonder too big for me! [Laugh] I mean, just way yonder too big. So I had put some kind of Scotch – just plain old tape around the thing, and then put some plastic on the outside of it, and all that bunch of stuff. Finally got it so I could keep it on. Anyway, these Carwell girls, and I guess my sister was there, I don't remember. And we were all in there messing – doing something in the kitchen, getting something to eat or something. And that ring shot off of my finger –

Chewning: [Laugh]

Stuart: And do you know, it went into that water pump!

Chewning: [Laugh]

Stuart: Down in that pump! Just –

Chewning: Oh no!

Stuart: I thought I was going to die. I thought that was the end of my life forever! Well, we forgot all about what we were eating, or what we were going to do. And all of us worked. We tried everything to get that – finally Helen – I did say her name was Helen, didn't I?

Chewning: Um hm.

Stuart: Yeah. Okay. She got the idea of taking – getting a clothes hanger, and undoing it and taking – you know, bending the little thing at the end, and poking it down in there. And she did! And she got that ring out of there! [Laugh]

Chewning: [Laugh]

Stuart: And I am here to tell you, that ring went back the next day at school! [Laugh]

Chewning: [Laugh]

Stuart: I just – and I don't know where Mother and Dad were. They would have killed me if they would have known all this was going on. They were someplace else. But anyway, I took that ring right back, and I explained to him, this meant nothing – that we weren't breaking up or anything like that. But I just had had it! [Laugh] I was not going to go through –

Chewning: [Laugh] Too much responsibility!

Stuart: No sir, I was not going through that again! So, bless his heart, I don't know whatever became of him.

Chewning: What was his name?

Stuart: Elmer [Blackwell].

Chewning: Elmer.

Stuart: Elmer. Uh huh. Yes. And I was still dating him when he went to England. [Laugh] And he was over there until after the war. And Phyllis [Blackwell], I'd talk with Phyllis his sister. Years later Phyllis said, "I had to tell him you were engaged to Boyd Stuart!"

Chewning: Uh oh.

Stuart: [Laugh] Anyway. Anyway, that's the story of that! [Laugh] But that was – I mean, it was a trauma! It was a real trauma!

Chewning: I'm sure it must have been! Yeah. Oh yeah.

Stuart: Oh gosh, today you know it wouldn't be – you know, my grandson lost his VMI ring. And they – Balfour will replace it once.

Chewning: Oh.

Stuart: So he will get it replaced. But not such – I mean, and I'm sure that VMI ring cost ten times as much as that little high school ring, but boy, I mean, there was no money floating around.

Chewning: Did girls get high school rings too when they were seniors?

Stuart: Yes. Oh, yes indeedy. Yes. Yes, we all got high school rings, and even us, who – our class who graduated in '44 right in the middle of the war, we were able to get high school rings. And ah, of course, somebody stole mine, but I still – yeah, when they stole all my jewelry. But I still have Boyd's high school ring. And we ordered them from Balfour.

Chewning: That company stayed in business a long time.

Stuart: A long time. Absolutely. So, anyway. And then another, Isabelle, I wanted to be real sure that these guys who, who were killed in World War II were mentioned in the museum, because they were all a big part of our high school life. And we've already mentioned George East. But George Slusser, and I wanted to tell you that George was at

– he and I corresponded back and forth just as friends. And then he and my brother both wound up in Italy. Carl was one year younger than George, so he was later getting there. But anyway, Carl went through – went to southern Africa, and on up into Italy. Anyway, George told me to let him know exactly what Carl’s address was and so forth, because he really wanted to look him up. And before he was able to look him, he was killed. George was killed.

Chewning: How did people find out when somebody was killed?

Stuart: Well, it was just terrible. It really was. I’ve told you my brother was wounded three times. And at that time, we were – between the time I just told you, we’d bought the house that we lived in until Mother and Dad moved to Lexington [2651 Brownsburg Turnpike]. And that’s where we were when Carl went into – when he graduated from high school and went into the service. And they – we would – we saw – I was in Lynchburg twice when it happened. But one time I was there. And we saw the guy coming up on the bicycle. Now to this day –

Chewning: Oh, with the telegrams?

Stuart: Yeah, with a telegram. Now to this day, I don’t know where he came from, whether he rode the bicycle from Lexington, I have no idea. But he rode that bicycle up, and then put his bicycle on the ground, and came up to the front door. And handed us the telegram. That’s tough.

Chewning: So you knew that if somebody came with a telegram it was bad news.

Stuart: It was bad news. And that was really tough because, you know, you didn’t know. You saw this guy. And you didn’t know what the news was going to be. But anyway, we were lucky.

Chewning: Um. Umm.

Stuart: We were lucky. And that one time I was there, we just jerked the thing open.

Chewning: Oh.

Stuart: And we could – the thing said that he was slightly wounded.

Chewning: Uh. That just –

Stuart: And after that, it was just -- aahhh.

Chewning: Oh, thank goodness, yeah.

Stuart: Yeah. Yeah. And then another time, the other two times I was in Lynchburg. But I came home for the weekend. And somebody was having a party. It runs in my mind that it was Ag [Patterson]. Over at the Lackey's house [316 Mount Atlas Road]. And I don't know what it was for or anything. But it seems to me that that's where I was going that night. And then after I came home, and they told me that they had gotten this wire. And he was – he was wounded pretty badly the first time, and that was the first telegram. And my – I don't think Mother wanted me to go to the party. Or she just thought it wouldn't look decent. Anyway, Dr. White, I believe was the minister. And I don't know how Dr. White got the news. But he did. And he came in, and he said, "You know, Carl --" [Stuart stops for a moment, overcome by emotion] Sorry. "Carl would want you to go to that party." He said, "That is exactly what he would want you to do." So I went.

Chewning: Aaahh. So you did.

Stuart: I went.

Chewning: Yep.

Stuart: Yep, and had a great time, really. [Laugh] And I have -- I've told Carl that, and he said, "Well, sure!" He said, "You couldn't do anything to help me!"

Chewning: Right. And then how -- was it a long time before you were able to get a letter from him after he was wounded?

Stuart: Oh, heavens yes.

Chewning: So you knew he was wounded but that --

Stuart: Wounded. Didn't know how much, how badly.

Chewning: I can't even imagine.

Stuart: I mean -- and I've told everybody, I watched Mother's hair turn grey.

Chewning: Oh, I'll bet.

Stuart: Can you imagine?

Chewning: No.

Stuart: I mean, well, there was not even any telephone conversation --

Chewning: No.

Stuart: -- that you could have. Because every -- and even the letters were all marked out -- censored.

Chewning: Oh they were? They were censored?

Stuart: The letters were all censored.

Chewning: Oh, I didn't realize that.

Stuart: They were all put on this v-mail. V-mail pictures, and they were all censored, everything. And so you never knew what the real truth was.

Chewning: Oh, I didn't –

Stuart: Even after you got –

Chewning: I didn't know that.

Stuart: Oh really? My goodness, I know I have some v-mail – they called them “V-mail”. V-mail. Instead of e-mail. I never thought about that before. But I know I have some of those around here.

Chewning: And what was marked out? Where they were, or -- ?

Stuart: Well, it was whatever the censor decided.

Chewning: Details –

Stuart: Yeah, most of it was supposed to be where they were, or maybe where they were going, or what they were going to do. Any of that. It was nothing left except just, “I'm doing fine. Love you. Hope I'll see you soon.” That kind of stuff.

Chewning: Yeah.

Stuart: Nothing – nothing at all.

Chewning: Aah. It makes sense when I think about it, but that had just never – I just didn't think about –

Stuart: Oh. It was terrible.

Chewning: censors.

Stuart: And we never really knew how badly Carl was wounded the first time. And he had shrapnel in his neck. That he carried to his death.

Chewning: Hmm.

Stuart: That just, you know, it was almost – it would have – little bit lower, he would have been – he would have been paralyzed for life.

Chewning: Uumm. Mmmm. Mmmm. Mmmm.

Stuart: And a little bit higher, he'd have been killed. So – now that's when he was wounded worst. The second time, I don't remember too much about. I think that must have been shrapnel also. I know the third – the – anyway, one time was shrapnel, one time was fire. But ah, it was – he recovered from that. So anyway, and then when he was shipped back, he was sent back to the place down between Staunton – I told you – and Fishersville.

Chewning: Um hm.

Stuart: At Fishersville. And that was because they wanted to get them as close to home as possible. And by that time, Carl was, you know, fine. He – well, he wasn't fine, but he was up and walking around and ah, then later on, he did have – he had stomach ulcers. And at that time, they thought it was – I don't know what they thought. They had to

remove – anyway, they removed over half of his stomach. And he had – for the rest of his – and he was, gosh, he was 21. For the rest of his life, he had to eat about five meals a day because he didn't have enough stomach. Yeah. But he got just a tiny little bit of disability. It was really kind of ridiculous. But, see, he should have gotten more because he was really not – after that, he was not able to work, really.

Chewning: Um hm.

Stuart: But ah, anyway, he lived a long productive life. Two children. But ah, anyway, it was tough. I don't see how parents managed. It's hard enough these days, but there – you can communicate.

Chewning: Right. Oh, it just must have felt so isolated for you.

Stuart: Absolutely. And there was just nothing. Just nothing you could do about it. You just hoped for the best, that's all. But anyway, and then Troy Hickman is another one of the guys who were in – who was killed in the service. And Troy was in the class – must have been the class of '42 that he graduated from high school. And Troy – I don't know where his parents lived, but he stayed with Mrs. Dice [[2081 Sterrett Road], who lived around the road there from the Sterrett's farm. It's now on Sterrett Road.

Chewning: Um hm. Right.

Stuart: Now. And she – she was a widow, and Troy lived with her, and helped her take care of her farm and so forth. And I was telling you last time about Dad driving the bus. Well, Troy and Mrs. Dice rode on that bus every –

Chewning: Oh they did! To church.

Stuart: To church. And there was great camaraderie between those two people. But I don't know where his family was, or – and I'm sure his family was notified and I – that's

about all I know about Troy. But I do know that he was killed in World War II. And then, of course, we know that George East was killed. And also Graham Dixon. And Graham was Boyd's first cousin. His mother – Boyd's mother and Graham's father were brother and sister.

Chewning: Um hm. And he went to school with you, too?

Stuart: He went to school in Brownsburg. He was older than I. And I'm not sure whether Graham went to high school and graduated. I'm not sure about him. I know that the time he went in the service, he was really helping his father on the farm. So, I'm not sure whether he graduated from high school. But he did go to Brownsburg School. Yes. And was a part of that. And they brought – see, they – he and his family went to the little school up there on – anyway, close to where they lived. And Boyd went to the school at Oak View. And in about – when I was in about the fifth grade, they brought all those kids to Brownsburg school, and that's when Graham came to Brownsburg. And I expect he was in about the sixth or seventh grade at that time. So, I just wanted to be sure that –

Chewning: Oh, I'm glad – glad you know about those, because that's important, I think, to –

Stuart: Yes. Very, very important. And so, anyway, it's been fun.

Chewning: Well, I do appreciate it. You've just given me so much good information.

Stuart: Well, I'm so glad. I've really – I really have enjoyed your company, Isabelle, I really have.

[Interview ends.]

Louise Wiseman Stuart Index

A

Arehart, Buzz · 6
Asbury Church · 43
Aunt Bessie · 7

B

Barnes, Dick · 26
Barnes, Richard · 5
Beard, Richard · 18, 75
Beards · 61
Belle, Edwin · 62
Bellevue · 65
black church · 35
Blackwell, Elmer · 79
Blackwell, Phyllis · 81
Blalock, Chris · 2
Bolen, Hassie Dice · 10, 79
Bosworth house · 50
Bosworth, Dr. · 24
Bosworth, Jimmy · 39
Bosworths · 15
Bowles · 22
Bowles, Bobby · 36
Bowles, Edith and Edgar · 35
Brady, Mary · 57
Brownsburg
 air raid drills · 18
 bank · 23
 barber · 23
 church · 35
 croquet · 76
 pool hall · 23
 Post Office · 10
 school · 9, 11–18, 30–34, 54, 62, 70–73, 89
 rings · 82
 shoe repair · 11, 25
 shoemaker · 9
 stores · 24
 telephone · 39
 telephone office · 23

C

Campbell, Gwen · 15
Carl (subject's brother) · 19
Carwell boys · 75
Carwell girls · 79
Carwell, Mildred · 59
Carwell's garage · 23
Chittum, Marjorie Whitesell · 41, *See* Whitesell,
 Marjorie Ann
Chrysanthemum Show · 59

D

Davis Station · 6
Dice, Mrs. · 88
Dice, Mr. · 43
Diehl, Dr. · 13
Dixon Graham · 89
Dot (subject's mother's sister) · 21
Drivers house · 43
Dudley family · 41
Dunaway family · 40

E

East · 13
East, George · 19, 31, 82
Englemans store · 22

F

Fairfield · 1

G

Gilliam, Catharine · 15, 24
Gordon · 3
Gordon family · 4

H

Halterman, Miss · 71
Hanna, Dr. C. Morton · 29, 59, 62
Harlow, Houston · 35
Harris, Margaret Wade · 22, *See* Wade, Margaret
 (Tootsie)
Harrison, Randy · 5
Heffelfinger, Jen · 12
Hickman, Troy · 88
High Nooners · 64
Hockmans · 2
Houser, Mrs. · 8
Houston, Mr. · 62
Huffman, Elmer · 21, 23
Huffman, Isabel · 11, 16
Huffman, Julian · 11

J

Jeffries, Dr. · 1

L

Lackey, Fred · 78
Layman's Apple Orchard · 1
Leech, Isabel · 11, 31
Leech, Thelma · 12
Lewis, John · 63
Lotts, Mary · 59
Lucas, Carrie · 61
Lunsford, Mr. · 14
Lunsford, Walter and Doris · 11
Lunsfords · 9

M

Martin, Bud · 61, *See*
Massanetta · 58
Matheny, Harve · 25
Mays, Virginia · 11
McClung, Senora · 13
McNutt, Hugh · 8
McNutt, Isabel · 11
Miley family · 41
Miller, Sam · 18
Moneymaker, Janet Reese · 3
Monopoly · 37
Montgomery, Mrs. · 13
Moore, Frances Wiseman · *See* Wiseman, Frances
Moore, Tinker · 78
Morris, Marie (Mamie) · 34

N

New Providence Church · 6, 58
 black members · 61
 bus · 61
 cemetery · 66
Newcomer, Carl · 73

O

outhouse fire · 4–5

P

paperdolls · 28
Patterson family · 24
Patterson, Ag · 5
Patterson, Ed · 4, 74
Patterson, Jenny · 27
Patterson, Rosenell · 17, 70
Patterson, Rosenell · 17
Patterson, Sam · 75
Pearl Harbor Day · 29
Pisgah · 3

Porter, Aunt Susan · 45
Potter, Aunt Sis (subject's great-great aunt) · 9
Powell family · 67
Powell, Anna Margaret · 67
Price, Dr. · 54
Price, Marilyn · 54, 55

R

Reese · 2
Reese, George · 3
Reese, Weasel · 3
Robinson, Ralph · 18

S

Shorter, Senora · 13
Shulls · 62
Sites, Isabel · 57
Slusser family · 35
Slusser, George · 82
Sterrett's farm · 88
Stevenson, Doug · 56
Stuart, Boyd · 8, 12, 17, 18, 30, 31, 36, 49, 62, 64, 68,
 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 81, 82, 89
Stuart, Louise Wiseman · 1
 birth · 1
 brother Carl · 4
 business school · 66
 church elder · 49
 family · 2
 father · 7, 8
 in Brownsburg · 1, 4, 9
 in Davis Station · 6
 Mother's sister, Helen · 4
 schooling · 8, 11
 sister Frances · 4
Supinger, Bob · 23
Supinger, Osie · 51
Supinger's Store · 22
Swisher, Henny · 71, 75
Swisher, Jeff · 53
Swopes family · 37

T

Tolley, Leonard · 75
Trimmer, Miss (Osie) · 17, 21, 30, 53–55, 70, 80
Troxell, Clint · 38

W

Wade family · 9, 21
Wade, Annie · 9
Wade, Blair Terrell · 69
Wade, Edith · 35

Wade, Elsie · 61
Wade, James F. · 70
Wade, Jen · 12
Wade, Margaret (Tootsie) · 9, 51
Wade, Mattie · 51
Wade, Pauline · 12
Wade, Randall · 8, 27, 57, 60, 63, 64, 66
Wade, Winston · 67
Wade's cemetery lot · 64
Wade's Mill · 67
Walthals · 62
Ward, Lib · 10
Whipple, Dorothy · 52
Whipple, Mollie Sue · 2, 16, 31
Whipple, Mollie Sue & Fred · 52

White, Dr. · 62, 84
Whitesell family · 41
Whitesell, Ida · 10
Whitesell, John Layton · 10, 31, 34
Whitesell, Marjorie Ann · 21, 22, 25, 26, 27, 38, 53
Wiseman, Carl · 82, 83
 Model T · 74–76
 wounded in WW II · 83, 87
Wiseman, Frances · 77
Wiseman, Johnnie · 2
Woody's store · 5
World War II · 18–20, 29–30, 82–89
 casualties · 19, 82, 88, 89
 V mail · 85