

MEMORIES OF NEW BERN

CLARENCE BURROUGHS BEASLEY

INTERVIEW 1054

This is Dr. Joseph Patterson representing the Memories of New Bern Committee. My number is 1000. I am interviewing Mr. Clarence B. Beasley (B-e-a-s-l-e-y) at his home at 301 Johnson Street in New Bern. The number of the interview is 1054. The date is August 20, 1993. I will refer to Mr. Beasley during the interview as Pop (P-o-p).

Well, Pop, we've got this tape running now and we'll go along a little bit and then I'll check it and see if it's recording. But, let's start out by my asking you just your full name.

POP BEASLEY: Clarence Burroughs Beasley.

DR. JOSEPH PATTERSON: How do you spell your middle name?

POP BEASLEY: B-u-r-r-o-u-g-h-s.

DR. JOSEPH PATTERSON: Spell it again.

POP BEASLEY: B-u-r-r-o-u-g-h-s.

DR. JOSEPH PATTERSON: Ok. When were you born, Pop?

POP BEASLEY: 1918, August the 17th.

DR. JOSEPH PATTERSON: And where were you born?

POP BEASLEY: In a little town right outside of Little Rock called Beebe, Arkansas.

DR. JOSEPH PATTERSON: Who were your folks?

POP BEASLEY: My father was the product of a farmer and a blacksmith and he ended up in the banking business and stayed in the banking and savings and loan business most all of his life. My mother had her masters degree in Latin and English from the University of Arkansas and she ended up as principal at the Cabot City school there right outside of Little Rock teaching Latin and English. And I think

they were married in 1914 as I remember.

DR. JOSEPH PATTERSON: Now, Pop, I'm just going and see if this is recording. Did you grow up in that little town?

POP BEASLEY: Well, it was almost commuting distance of Little Rock. My father ended up as cashier of the bank in a little town right close to it by the name of Cabot, Arkansas and we moved to Little Rock and he took over the American Savings and Loan. I think he was secretary; oh, Joe Pat, I don't remember but I was in the second grade when we moved to Little Rock. And I lived there all through my life and attended grammar school and junior high school and high school there. That was the school that General Eisenhower made famous by the integration. We had over two thousand students in the school, and we had a good football team. We also had a good athletic program. It was a great school to attend.

DR. JOSEPH PATTERSON: And you went to college?

POP BEASLEY: Yes, went to the University of Arkansas 1936 through '41.

DR. JOSEPH PATTERSON: That brought you right up against a solid rock wall didn't it, 1941.

POP BEASLEY: Yeah, joined the service some time around '41 and I guess I was called in January of '42. And I got out of flight school in 1942.

DR. JOSEPH PATTERSON: This is Marine flight school?

POP BEASLEY: No, it was Naval flight school. I went to E Base at New Orleans and to advanced flight training at Pensacola, Florida

and then graduated, I think it was December of '42 from Opolocka and Miami in operational training. We went to Santa Barbara and formed a torpedo bombing squadron. I dropped torpedoes in the North Island area, but under the supervision of the Navy, supposed to be experts.

And I guess we dropped less than three, or four, or five torpedoes after we went overseas. Everything was bombs in those days, a hundred to five hundred pounds then two thousand pounds. We embarked on the USS Chenango going overseas.

DR. JOSEPH PATTERSON: How do you spell that, Pop?

POP BEASLEY: C-h-e-n-a-n-g-o, it was a jeep carrier and five hundred and some odd feet long. I always remember what the staff NCO's did to me when we crossed the date line. For a week before, I had to wait tables down for the staff NCO's. I was the young second lieutenant and it was a great humility pill to have to wait on those master sergeants and chiefs as a steward, but it was good training.

We had our initiation on the date line and the equator. And we arrived at the Solomons somewhere in early '43. I went from Espirito Santo to the Solomons and I was in the Solomons for about eleven or eleven and a half months off and on during which time I was privileged to take two tours of seven days to Sydney, Australia. I met a lot of nice people down there. I still am a life time member of the Royal Australian Cricket Club in Sydney and I've never played a game of cricket in my life. My tent mate was Bob Garvey of Winston Salem and together we came to Cherry Point.

JOSEPH PATTERSON: Bob Garvey?

POP BEASLEY: Bob Garvey, his father and his uncle were doctors in Winston-Salem teaching at Bowman Gray.

DR. JOSEPH PATTERSON: Where were you living with him, Pop?

POP BEASLEY: All through the war, we were tent mates..

DR. JOSEPH PATTERSON: Ok, you roomed with him.

POP BEASLEY: We took the squadron overseas and we went together, and we came home together. And we came here, and Bob and I lived at the BOQ. Tyrone Power was next door, Vince Sardi ran the Mess Hall.

DR. JOSEPH PATTERSON: At Cherry Point?

POP BEASLEY: Cherry Point, yes. I came into Cherry Point by train, of all things, and I told you about going through LaGrange.

DR. JOSEPH PATTERSON: This was what year, Pop?

POP BEASLEY: Either late '43 or early '44. I'm not sure. And we disembarked and of course Cherry Point was in the throes of just being built. It was muddy and the housing was not too great, but the BOQ's were finished and we had a nice place to stay.

DR. JOSEPH PATTERSON: What was it like then, Pop, as you remember the base in the early years?

POP BEASLEY: Well, it was a very desolate place as you can imagine. When I arrived in Cherry Point which was located at Havelock, there were only two stores. Old man Trader's store that was out close to the railroad tracks and the railway express was the only two stores outside of the base. As I remember, there were eleven grave yards on the base. There were some twelve or fifteen thousand acres. I don't remember the exact amount, and my wife's father had at one time

owned most of that land down there, or her grandfather. And when the war came along, Mr. Barden, who probably was one of the leading citizens this community ever had, ended up head of the education and labor committee in the congress, for the house. Mr. Blades met with Secretary Knox of the Navy and they came down here and walked over and not only Havelock area where Cherry Point is now located, but they even examined and there still is on record a one foot topo map of all the area surrounding Minnesott Beach. The only reason they didn't go over there, the land was higher and better suited, was the fact they had no access to the ports. So they elected to go to Cherry Point, but Duff's dad traipsed all over that country with Secretary Knox and Mr. Barden and that was just one of the great things that Congressman Barden brought to this community.

DR. JOSEPH PATTERSON: He was really the big man in this Cherry Point development then?

POP BEASLEY: He was a big man in Congress. Big man.

DR. JOSEPH PATTERSON: Pop, did you stay here long when you came back to Cherry Point in 1943 or did you go back...?

POP BEASLEY: I was here about a year, I guess, or a little less and I went back to Okinawa, and closed out the war there. I had the last squadron on Okinawa after the Marine Wing had departed, and I had the job of dismantling the wing materiel and it was a strange thing for a young man but we drove millions and millions and millions of dollars worth of rolling stock over Suicide Cliff. Bay City Cranes, weapon carriers, jeeps, trucks, but they did not want the market flooded

back here, so off they went.

DR. JOSEPH PATTERSON: Pop, were you in the Naval Air Corps all this time?

POP BEASLEY: No, I was in the Marine Air Corps.

DR. JOSEPH PATTERSON: You had transferred to the Marines, they had placed you in the Marine Air Corps.

POP BEASLEY: Well, the Marines like to say this, whether it's true or not, Joe Pat, but I'm going to profess that it must be. The Marine Corps is supposed to take the top ten percent of the Naval graduating class at Pensacola. So we claim that anyway. And at that time you made the decision about three months before you finished whether you were going to be a Marine or whether you were going to be Navy. I was a Naval cadet, and we graduated as second lieutenants in the Marine Corps. So that's how I got in the Marine Corps.

DR. JOSEPH PATTERSON: Pop, on Okinawa were you based at Kadina air field?

POP BEASLEY: Never at Kadina. We had some B25's over there. I was at Awasse and ended up in the control group which, as a matter of fact, I guess you remember Ernie Pyle. He was killed in one of those squadrons, in a control squadron on a little island. Seems to me it was Iwo Jima.

DR. JOSEPH PATTERSON: That's right.

POP BEASLEY: I stayed there until 1946 and in trying to disperse all this equipment left by the Marine Wing, I found that the Navy was sending a bunch of LST's back from Saipan empty. So I went to see

the Navy commander at Naha and he agreed to let us have some ships going back to Guam. We sent so much the commander at the Marine barracks at Guam said don't send any more. We're overloaded. But in this time I met one of the most colorful characters that I've ever known and I think if we had a holocaust and I had to exist I'd like to hang on to Ecky Meadows' coat tails, because he can live off the land if anybody could. But Eck had one of the LST's. He was the only skipper that had converted his shower into a bathtub, and I think Ecky was about as eccentric then as he is now.

DR. JOSEPH PATTERSON: Pop, I left Okinawa shortly after the Japanese surrendered and went to Japan so I missed the typhoon that came through there. I don't know if you remember that. But we're interested in you. You came back to New Bern then after that.

POP BEASLEY: Yes, came back to Cherry Point and as a matter of fact, I was assigned to the same squadron, SOES, an engineering squadron. And Ralph Rottet commanded who later retired in New Bern as a Lieutenant-General. He died shortly after he retired. I started redating the girl I had dated before I had gone, (Emma Duffy Blades) and we were married June 1, 1946.

DR. JOSEPH PATTERSON: Getting back to the Pacific for just a minute. Fred tells me that you were associated with some mighty well known aviators out there.

POP BEASLEY: Well there were a few. I guess Marion Carl is one of my best friends.

DR. JOSEPH PATTERSON: C-a-r-l.

POP BEASLEY: C-a-r-l. He married a Powers model on a bond tour. Marion had 17 or 18 airplanes as I remember. He was a graduate aerodynamics engineer from Oregon University and Marion was a very silent man. He held the world's speed record for maybe 15 or 20 years, and he also held the altitude record for a short time. And of course, Paul Fontana is a life time friend, was an ace. I used to hunt with Joe Foss on a little French island just north of the Espirito Santo in the New Hebrides. They had wild goats, and wild hogs, and wild chickens. We used to go up there and shoot them and bring them back and have barbecues with the boys. John Smith I knew, not well, but he was an Indian, also a leading Ace; even knew Pappy Boyington.

DR. JOSEPH PATTERSON: Pop, you said a minute ago that you came back and married the girl you had met earlier in New Bern. That covers a lot of ground. That statement. I wonder if you would look at that a little bit more closely and tell me what it was like being a Marine in New Bern in those days and how it happened that you met Duff and then got married.

POP BEASLEY: Well, I think the first thing I would like to say is all you guys had gone to war and you left all these pretty girls here. So we had a pretty wide field for dating. But I dated, I guess first a couple of girls in Morehead and I finally got up to New Bern and, as a matter of fact, the room in which we are talking now, Dr. Richard Duffy, gave a wonderful party for us when we were married.

But I dated several of the girls here in New Bern. One of the first I ever dated was Bessie Mae Land, and I dated Mary Warren (Mary Boylan)

once, I think, or twice. I don't know. And then I started dating Duff and dated her steadily until I went back overseas in 1945. When I came back, we decided that marrying was inevitable, so we did it.

Duff's mother and father were quite suspicious of my being a Marine, I think. Mrs. Blades one summer tried to take her to Black Mountain to keep her from getting serious and old Ralph Rottet, my commanding officer in those days; he allowed me to take a SNJ and I was up there every Friday afternoon and spent the weekend and came home on Sunday.

We got away with murder in those days.

DR. JOSEPH PATTERSON: Pop, what was New Bern like in those days?

POP BEASLEY: Oh, I don't know how to answer that. The two main structures I knew here in those days were the Elks Building and they were very generous with their hospitality. The first drink I think I ever had in New Bern was with Emmett Whitehurst another colorful New Bern citizen and Kido Bowden. And then there was the Trent Pines Club run by Fred Miles and his wife Louise who probably was one of the most beautiful women I ever saw riding a horse. She really was quite an equestrian. And we had a lot of good times out at Trent Pines Club.

DR. JOSEPH PATTERSON: What was it like, Pop? What was the club like?

POP BEASLEY: Well, it was old Dr. Sloan's home, that he made Sloan's Liniment. And he built quite a mansion, I guess. Had many downstairs rooms. The wood was all different in each room. Had a big sun porch, and Fred made it into a kind of a tavern, a large dining

room, and we danced in the sun room. And there was three or four more rooms downstairs. I guess there were three floors, and about eight rooms on each floor.

DR. JOSEPH PATTERSON: You could stay there could you?

POP BEASLEY: Oh, yes. Yes, yes. Many a night we went out there and stayed to get away from the base. And it was a wonderful place to meet the young ladies of New Bern, it was probably the best place to go for entertainment in New Bern. I remember George Smith and Clara Seifert opened a club on top of Mack Lupton's freezer locker and, it was the enlisted club, but anyway, they let us in. One night the hat check girl didn't show up and Clara (she was a Seifert) came down to help out and she made so many tips she convinced George that would be a permanent job for her. And then I guess the beach, of course, was attractive to us.

DR. JOSEPH PATTERSON: Pop, could we get back to Trent Pines for just a moment. You told me the other day that Jim Stewart, Jane Stewart's brother owned that property.

POP BEASLEY: Jane's father.

DR. JOSEPH PATTERSON: Jane's father, Jim Stewart.

POP BEASLEY: Yes sir.

DR. JOSEPH PATTERSON: I see, and would you tell me again the story of...

POP BEASLEY: Now this is hearsay, but Jane relayed to me this.

I think Jane was one of the great characters of New Bern, and probably had the most acute sense of color of anyone I've ever known in my life.

She tells a story on her father. Dr. Sloan was coming from up north to Florida and he was at Pinehurst and he remembered an eastern town that had oysters at the foot of the street, Main Street (Middle Street).

Finally decided it was New Bern and he came here. Jane took Dr. Sloan out where Trent Pines is presently. Seems to me there were about five or six hundred acres. I don't remember exactly. Her father who was a mule trader and horse trader here in New Bern sold it to Dr. Sloan. Well, Dr. Sloan built quite a mansion and a few years later Dr. Sloan found a very fine spring there and New Bern water was atrocious. So he started bottling it, and people were driving out there to get it. The story goes that Mr. Stewart could not read or write and he drove out to see Dr. Sloan. He said, Dr. Sloan, Dr. Sloan, you remember I sold you this land and since I'm an illiterate man and I don't exactly know what's in that deed, would you read it to me?

Dr. Sloan read him the deed and it gave all the metes, and the bounds, and the calls, and the riverfront, and the creeks and so forth. Dr. Sloan, I mean Mr. Stewart said, Dr. Sloan, I don't remember you reading a thing in the world in that deed about that spring and if I didn't sell you that spring I guess it's mine. Dr. Sloan said, well, Jim, he said, that's right and I'm going to give you twenty four hours to get that spring off my land. There's many stories, true or not that came out of old New Bern.

DR. JOSEPH PATTERSON: Pop, you mentioned to me too about the construction of Trent Pines, the house at Trent Pines, the club building.

POP BEASLEY: Oh, Duff's, my wife's father was in the mill business then and he had three saw mills at the time. I think a couple of planking mills, and he said the wood inside was of many, many different types.

There was chestnut, and there was walnut, and there was poplar, and mahogany, and, I've forgotten all the types there, but most of it has been painted and I haven't seen it since the Holding boy has redone it. But the dining room as I remember was beechnut, beautiful wood, and there was some pecan too. It was a fine, fine home.

DR. JOSEPH PATTERSON: You said that there were cock fights out there?

POP BEASLEY: Oh, every Sunday afternoon. We had an old bartender by the name of Al Hulcher and it's now where the, the barn was where Dr. Bill Hunt lives. Anyway, where his house is there on Yacht Club, on Yacht Club Road.

JOSEPH PATTERSON: Oh, I know who you're talking about.

POP BEASLEY: Well, anyway, it's right where his house sits is where the barn sat, and that's where we had the cock fights and boy people came from all around to bet on the cock fights. He also had a chuckaluck machine at the bar which it was as illegal as it could be.

DR. JOSEPH PATTERSON: Now what was that, Pop?

POP BEASLEY: Chuckaluck machine. It was a dice game. You know, you turn like this and there've been many a Marine left with less money than he brought on that chuckaluck machine.

DR. JOSEPH PATTERSON: Pop, in those war years in New Bern, do

you remember anything about river patrols or, to protect the bridges.

POP BEASLEY: No, I do not. I do know that I spent a lot of time on the river. We had three amphibious airplanes when I got here in this engineering squadron and we had no Marines that were checked out in them and I think, I took a Corsair up to Elizabeth City and checked out an old commander in the Corsair only if he'd agree to come down and check me out in the Goose, in the Widgeon, and the Duck. He did and I bet you I've made two hundred to two hundred fifty landings out there on that river checking out other pilots. Everybody wanted to learn to fly them because it was a lot of fun. And the Coast Guard commander, his name was Baxter, was very nice to teach us all how to do it. The fishing. Yes, I have fished all up and down this river.

There's some characters if there every was any. Jennings Flowers, George Slaughter, James Paul. The old boy in the post office that was so good, best striped bass fisherman I ever knew. And in those days, I remember between Trent Pines and New Bern there was the remains of an old foot bridge and it was not deteriorated those days to the point that at low tide you would see the piling. It was there on the point where Robert Bordeau now lives.

Well, golly, we've caught so many rock fish and in those days, they used to school and we'd catch them three to five pounds by casting to them and later on we started trolling. Never forget the day when James Paul's son drowned and seems to me that we worked on that river or patrolled the river for maybe two days and finally found him.

DR. JOSEPH PATTERSON: Pop, Simmons-Nott Airport was dedicated

in 1931 and during the early days of the war it was turned over to the Marines as I recall and named Camp Mitchell. Do you recall any details about that?

POP BEASLEY: I wasn't here. That was before I got in the Marine Corps. No, I guess that I was in flight school, but I have many good friends, Hank Lane, Paul Fontana. Paul Fontana is still alive. Lives in Carolina Pines. He came in with the first contingent. Oh, golly.

I can't think of so many of the names. I'll tell you a boy that married a New Bern girl who came in with that. He was, sold appliances here for years and years.

FRED: John Williams.

POP BEASLEY: John Williams. John came in with that first contingent and he could tell you the components and everything of it and mine would be hearsay, but he came in with the first Marine contingent.

DR. JOSEPH PATTERSON: Pop, when you came back, Duff told me about your career. You all went many places back across the country and back to New Bern. You were in Hawaii and several places like that. You finally got out of the Marines in 1963.

POP BEASLEY: January.

DR. JOSEPH PATTERSON: You were in New Bern and what was your career like after that.

POP BEASLEY: Oh, Joe Pat. Eastern Carolina has been so good to me. I started getting in the timber business four or five years before I got out of the service. My last tour of duty in the Marine

Corps, I was loaned to the Airways Modernization Board, commanded by an Army General by the name of Quesada. It was the Air Ways Modernization Board, comprised of eleven military men from all branches. There were only two Marines and we founded the FAA and disbanded the CAA. It had become corrupt and they weren't doing anything to make our airways safe. I went to Atlantic City to help build the range instrumentation center and I wasn't allowed to wear a uniform for three years. So when I came home, I had already made the acclimation to civilian clothing. But I got in the timber business and you didn't find me on the golf course in those days. I went to work at 4:30 or 5:00 in the morning and generally got home 7:00 to 8:00 at night. Most of our property was in Martin and Bertie and Pasquotank. It was a fun and rewarding business.

DR. JOSEPH PATTERSON: Now is this property that Vernon Blades....

POP BEASLEY: No, Vernon had left his children about twenty one hundred acres which was residual of the old Fulman-Blades Lumber Company in Elizabeth City. And I think when we finally sold out, I bought the others out and then I finally had to sell it because I had such a large indebtness. I think we finally sold between twelve and thirteen thousand acres. So we grew in the period from '63 until '81 from twenty one or twenty two hundred acres to twelve or thirteen thousand.

DR. JOSEPH PATTERSON: Is this all after the real estate business that.....

POP BEASLEY: No, this was during. Kelso was a boy from Indiana,

Terra Haute, he was a Marine fighter pilot, and he wanted to live in New Bern. His wife had had some mental problems and the Marine Corps told him they would leave him here until he could retire. We'd been good friends for a number of years and a matter of fact, I was executive officer of 531 when Lynn had a FJ squadron so that's how we became friends, as competitors. He understood that I was going to spend three or four days a week in the woods and I would spend the other with him. Well later as I got my woods running and got a young man to look after it by the name of Jeannette who was a forester for Duke University, I spent a little less time with my timber, and more with Beasley-Kelso. My building, development, real estate and insurance were all parallel. And, oh, we built the marina at Minnesott.

We paved the roads. We made a city there. We put in a water tower, paved the streets, built a golf course. Garvin Hardison owned all that land, with his father. He came to us and said he just wasn't having any luck merchandising it so he asked us if we would join him.

We did and we ended up as partners with him, the three of us, and later another man came in with us. So we really feel like we built the town of Minnesott. Put the first water works in Pamlico County.

Interesting to note, we had a little over two and fifty thousand in our water works. Bayboro had one done two or three years later under the auspices of the federal government and the grant program, and they had between four and five hundred thousand in theirs and had almost the identical number of outlets that we had put in in Minnesott. But we sold ours to the city of Minnesott.

DR. JOSEPH PATTERSON: When you came to New Bern and got to know Duff and Vernon Blades, what were Vernon's holdings like, his lumber involvement.

POP BEASLEY: Joe Pat, you know, her father was a timber man and apparently a very good one. It had been his life. He was a little man 5' 4" or 5' 3" maybe. Feisty as he could be but he could walk your fanny off in the woods and if he got tired, when he was in his seventies and if he got tired, he could sit down, lean his back against the pine tree and sleep, oh, five or ten minutes and get up fresh as a daisy. I had a lot of time to talk to him. He had been a very, very wealthy man here apparently, at one time. His father had built probably one of the most pretentious homes in town called the Queen Anne. It's interesting to note that I have the figures that it cost him a hundred and forty some odd thousand dollars to build....

DR. JOSEPH PATTERSON: This is what became the Queen Anne Hotel?

POP BEASLEY: What became the Queen Anne Hotel, I sold it. I bought it from Dan Miles somewhere in the seventies, I think, and I sold it to First Citizens Bank for within two or three percent of what it had cost Mr. Blades to build it. So the value didn't grow a great deal, and I told you, I think, that when Mr. Blades went into bankruptcy that the house sold to Mr. McLawhorn for fourteen thousand dollars.

He was a country farmer and he lived there about six weeks. Told his wife, let's go back to the farm. He didn't like that big pretentious house. But the story Vernon has told me, at the time of his bankruptcy he owned the Neuse Lumber Company and the Blades Lumber Company. He

had about 10% of the Bridgeton Lumber Company, and 47% of the New Bern Veneer. He owned the Cadillac agency and he was virtually free and clear. They had, I think, three banks here then, may have been four, but he was in two or three of them and had a fairly large investment.

And in those days, as a director or an investor in banks, if the banks went broke you had to come up with an equal amount of what you had invested in it. So if you had a hundred thousand dollars worth of bank stock and it went broke, you had to come up with another hundred thousand. So with all of his holdings, he ended up with some five or six hundred thousand dollars in bank stock when everything went defunct.

DR. JOSEPH PATTERSON: In the depression?

POP BEASLEY: In the depression, in '32. They closed him out and sold everything he had and he couldn't raise enough money to pay the five hundred thousand for the banks, but he did salvage this Forman-Blades Lumber Company out of the thing and I think he was left a dower right as I understand it in the house, but to make a long story short. When I got here, Vernon and Mrs. Blades had just moved from the Gaston Hotel where they had run it for some time to keep body and soul together and he had gotten back into the business and reclaimed some of his land through the help, I might add, of Mr. Ben Jones who was the county auditor here for many, many years. And as some of it would come back up, Vernon knew the land and he bought it back in.

But anyway, they lived on East Front Street when I was dating Duff, 616 East Front Street. And they recouped some, but Mrs. Blades seemed

to be the real driving force. I think Vernon had lost his, it had been such a shock to him to go through this. Mrs. Blades took on and really became a very fine business woman.

DR. JOSEPH PATTERSON: Pop, where was the Blades Lumber Company located?

POP BEASLEY: Let me give you a little history. They were from Bishopville, Maryland. There were four Blades brothers I believe, if my memory serves me right. They did a lot for New Bern. Mr. J. B. Blades, Duff's grandfather, his wife was a school teacher at Bishopville and she had saved \$2,000 or \$2,200, something like that.

He first came to Elizabeth City and then he came on down here and I don't know when Bill Blades joined him, the Bill Blades you know, his father. But they started the J. B. Blades Lumber Company in James City and they put all the, the logs in those days, you know, in the summer time they stain. So in those days instead of having sprays on them, they put big log pond impoundments out in the river and for many, many years up until two years ago or three years ago, those log ponds were still there, and the piling were still there. And at one time, they, seemed to me, they had almost two hundred thousand acres of land, owner or Timber Deed, Cherry Point being a part of it. The old J. B. Blades Lumber Company, I believe, was sold in 1912 to that Roper Lumber Company from New York came down and bought the old Blades Lumber Company from then J. B. Blades, Duff's grandfather, Mr. Will Blades, Bill Blades, Bobby and Jack's grandfather, Mr. Charlie Blades who never had any children. Then there was a fourth brother who was

a sheriff in Kansas and he came here for about six months. Didn't like it, and went back. But I think, Joe Pat, it's interesting to note that they were avid Methodists. Did Duff tell you the story about the bell?

DR. JOSEPH PATTERSON: About the bell? Yes, she told it.

POP BEASLEY: And they, the church they helped build, and you know they helped build the Elks Club and the Elks Club went into default and they took it over and then they sold it back to the Elks Club when they got to going good. They opened, I don't know whether it was a business school or a secretarial school or something out here in Riverside that, but you know what all the things that Bill Blades promoted. The Bluffs, and the old Blades Lumber Company, Blades Automobile which Dan Roberts later ended up with, but they were great men. They were all strongmen. To give you some idea of business in those days, Mr. Noah Rowe. Did you ever know Mr. N. F. Rowe? Lived over here on the corner of

DR. JOSEPH PATTERSON: King Street

POP BEASLEY: King and

DR. JOSEPH PATTERSON: East Front

POP BEASLEY: East Front Street. As a young man, he went to work in the office for these Blades men, and they thought enough of him that they sent him to Trinity College to get his accounting degree and he came back and worked with them almost the rest of his life.

DR. JOSEPH PATTERSON: Pop, the lumber yard or company that was

down on the Neuse River where you had your property, right behind the house that you all lived in, was that the Neuse Lumber Company.

POP BEASLEY: Neuse Lumber Company on what's now Edgerton Drive and is named after an old man who had a monument business down there if you remember it.

DR. JOSEPH PATTERSON: That was owned by the Blades family?

POP BEASLEY: Yes, it was at one time. The old Neuse Lumber Company was one of the three mills that Vernon owned when he went bankrupt.

Vernon's father died on the road between Ashville and Old Fort and they never knew whether it was heart attack first or the accident, but it was rather amusing that Duff's father would never own a Cadillac because all of his uncles and father had died in, on, or around a Cadillac car. So he wouldn't own one.

DR. JOSEPH PATTERSON: That hasn't fazed you and Duff. Pop, when you came here in '43, the lumber business was the big thing going, but there were a couple of other businesses in town that you remember.

POP BEASLEY: Well, the lumber business was Turnbull, Bate, Aberly, Slater, but there were, the boat yard probably was one of the largest payrolls in New Bern when I came here. They, Barbour Boat Works, they were building like mad. Vernon, Duff's father, had an old mill that had a thirty foot throw or carriage. You know what I'm talking about? Where they put the logs on and they can saw a thirty foot log. Most of them are sixteen to twenty feet. And he gave that to Mr. Barbour during the war and that's where he cut the wood for all the mine sweeps that he made for the government. And I guess ten

years ago, fifteen years ago, talking to Rembert it was still there but not in use. I think he had it stored. I had a fifteen or thirteen foot lap streak Barbour boat with an eighty or an eighty eight h.p. engine on it, but you could spin the engine all around for reverse.

We used to use it for rock fishing. I bought it at Clark's Drug Store.

But then one of the interesting businesses that was here, I got to know an accountant by the name Spruill. Can't remember his first name.

But he was explaining to me what Mr. Barnes had done for this community and his employees at Maola. He was one of the early, early people that believed in profit sharing with his employees and he did it through issuance of stock to his employees. Whether it ever panned out or not, I don't know, but anyway, it was a forward thinking that I would have never expected to see, in those days, in a little town like New Bern.

DR. JOSEPH PATTERSON: But Maola was a big business then.

POP BEASLEY: Alive and flourishing. And, of course, you know the ice business was big here during the war. Duff's father had an ice plant. It was down behind the Gaston Hotel and he sold tons and tons of ice to the federal government.

DR. JOSEPH PATTERSON: I didn't know that.

POP BEASLEY: Yeah. That old ice plant was operating when Duff and I were courting, he couldn't make enough ice to sell to the government. It was quite a lucrative thing for him.

DR. JOSEPH PATTERSON: One of the memories I have of Mr. Barnes, the head of Maola, was in the 1950's when I was practicing surgery

here. He was a patient at Kafer Hospital. I was not his physician.

I don't know what was wrong with him, but he was ambulatory and his company had just purchased the first big eighteen wheeler tanker and it was going to take its first trip, the shiny, new, big, outfit. So they took Mr. Barnes out on the front porch of Kafer Hospital and sat him in a chair.

DR. JOSEPH PATTERSON: You were going to say?

POP BEASLEY: I was just going to comment. I guess that's where they got the old story about that long tanker was where the first time they pulled it down the country road and the two old cows were grazing in the pasture. One of them turned to the other and said kind of makes you feel inadequate, don't it?

DR. JOSEPH PATTERSON: Pop, as I told Duff yesterday and as she well knew, Jane Stewart was one of the remarkable people in our memory in New Bern and you knew Jane. Would you care to comment a little bit about Jane and about her house?

POP BEASLEY: Well, she was an interesting lady. She was one of Duff's father's old girl friends before Mr. Blades married Duff's mother. And they remained, Jane and Mrs. Blades remained life long friends and, of course, I knew her when I was courting. She could curse better than a sailor, but a marvelous interior decorator and she could carry a color in her mind with her to New York for six months, six years. And if she saw something that belonged in your house, she bought it and brought it home to you. I guess she decorated more than half of the fine homes in Kinston. But Jane's father as we talked

about, lived in the old Hughes house. It was built by Dr. Hughes.

DR. JOSEPH PATTERSON: This is the one across from the old city hall?

POP BEASLEY: Across from the city hall. And Dr. Hughes was the same man who later owned this fine old house on Craven Street that burned. I thought one of the most magnificent Georgian homes in New Bern.

DR. JOSEPH PATTERSON: That became the Hughes Apartments later.

POP BEASLEY: Yes sir, it did. And while we are on that subject, I still think the four most important homes that I knew when I came here were the Libby Ward home, and now the Billy Hand home, and...

DR. JOSEPH PATTERSON: Excuse me. That's not the Billy Hand home. Dr. Eckberg...

POP BEASLEY: Yeah, I know that, but Billy Hand lives there, next door. And then the old Hughes house whatever that was. I don't remember now who built that home. But it had a law office next to it. So it must have been, Mary moved the law office out to the river, you know.

And then, of course, Dr. Charles Hall Ashford's. I think those were the three, four finest homes that I knew of when I was here. I always make the remark that Duff gets mad at me about, but when I came to New Bern they were so fresh out of the depression. Vernon told me they even used coupons back during the depression. There was no money.

But I'd never seen, I was a mid-westerner and we were kind of austere and bound where we lived and didn't have the all the fine furniture and silver. I've never seen so much silver and linens and beautiful

furniture and antiques in my life, and I'll bet you the half of downtown New Bern in those days couldn't raise a thousand dollars. They were all poor as they could be, but they all picked up and so many of them cut their homes up into apartments and rented them and Lord knows it was welcome, because the married Marines had no place to live. It's too bad in some respects that they had to cut up some of the fine old houses to do it, but many of them have been restored to their natural.

DR. JOSEPH PATTERSON: Do you have any more comments about Jane?

POP BEASLEY: Oh, yeah. A lot of comments about Jane. Jane, I went to New York one time with her. She wanted me to see the antique shops and so I drove her up and back and she read poetry to me going both ways. Well, for a young Marine that wasn't a great deal of entertainment, but Jane had a colored boy that worked with her by the name of Donald. And if there ever was a man who hadn't been emancipated I believe it was Donald. But Jane could put on the best parties. She put them on in the grandest style you ever saw and she knew what to have and in what quantity. And I really, when we cut this off, I'll tell you a story about the beach. But, Jane in her later years, after Duff's mother died, Vernon was very nice to Miss Stewart. And he'd take her lunch to her. And I dropped by to see Jane I guess two or three times a week. She was always in her nightgown, propped up in bed with that long silver cigarette holder and always seemed genuinely glad to see me. She had some illustrious sisters, but Jane was not a good business woman. She was an artist, but Vernon, Duff's father died in her house. He had taken her from the, you all remember

Williams Cafe, he'd taken her lunch from Williams Cafe at noon and he delivered it to her and died with a heart attack there by her bed, but Jane had remained a life long friend of the Blades family and she helped Mrs. Blades with the old Gaston Hotel. They went to junk shops and everything else. Jane Stewart could take junk and put it together and make it look like it was antiques. But I have a great deal of respect for Jane. She was a bachelor lady, never married, and one of New Bern's most colorful and most talked about characters I guess.

DR. JOSEPH PATTERSON: Yeah, I think that's true. Another person that you had spoken about that I remember so well and he meant a lot to me and was a good friend of my father's and mine, is Emmett Whitehurst. Would you talk about Emmett for a little?

POP BEASLEY: Delightful man. Well, I told you the first drink I ever had at New Bern was with Emmett, and I had a command of about fifteen hundred, twelve hundred men just before I retired down at Cherry Point. And I had a young major who was an alcoholic. I had a master sergeant with eighteen years in and I had some youngsters who were bordering on alcoholism, but I was in a difficult deliminia as to do with them. They were at the point where you either had to court marshall them or get them sober so they could live out their retirement. And Mr. Whitehurst, I guess, by his own admission, drank a quart of Jack Daniels every day of his life for forty years, but he became an avid AA and I went to see him. And I said, Emmett, I've got troubles and I want to talk to you about it, and I did. And to make a long story short, he counseled these boys, got them all back on the right track.

The young major or the major stayed on long enough to retire. The master sergeant sobered up. We put him in charge of the library. He did a wonderful job and when he retired a couple of years later, he went to East Carolina and majored in sociology and came back and worked in an organization that we had established with Murphy Smith and the executive director was

DR. JOSEPH PATTERSON: This was the Alcoholic

POP BEASLEY: Alcoholic Information Center. The executive director of it was Gray Wheeler, Sr. But Emmett lectured to people all over eastern Carolina.

DR. JOSEPH PATTERSON: As part of AA?

POP BEASLEY: Part of AA and the Alcoholic Information Center. He was very instrumental in getting Walter Jones who was then Senator, later Congressman to award us a nickel a bottle from every bottle of booze sold in Craven County and which we used for information and treatment of the alcoholic. And we had some characters. One of the greatest characters I ever knew was a fellow by the name of Charles Turner and Charlie was, he could go for weeks and stay sober and be one of the most entertaining men in the world and then he could get the drunkest of anybody I ever saw in my life. But he had five nice children and they all amounted to great things. One, the youngest is a professor, doctor. One of the girls has a law degree. One of the son had a law degree. They all have excelled and

DR. JOSEPH PATTERSON: And Kay, of course, his wife had a lot to do with that too.

POP BEASLEY: Raising the kids. Yeah, but I tell you, Charlie, he built that house out there on Green Springs Road and he always went and he says you know Pop, I couldn't afford the quality, but said I certainly have got the quantity and that's what I needed.

DR. JOSEPH PATTERSON: Yes, Charles was a good friend. I remember him well.

POP BEASLEY: And he said one time, he said, you know, all these guys retire and come down here from New York and Philadelphia, all over the north. He said, they worked hard all their life and probably made twenty five, fifty thousand dollars a year, that's back when that was a big money, and he said, I never made over seven or eight thousand dollars, but I've lived like a millionaire all my life. That's the truth.

DR. JOSEPH PATTERSON: Pop, another person that you remember so well and I remember a little bit, a person that has been important to New Bern, is Minnette Duffy. How do you remember Minnette?

POP BEASLEY: I didn't know Minnette so very well. Of course, I knew her through her children. She had five children, Charlie boy, Charlotte, Dicky, Minnette, Sofie.

DR. JOSEPH PATTERSON: Dick.

POP BEASLEY: Yeah, Charlotte, and Dick, and the boy in Knoxville, Charles Duffy.

DR. JOSEPH PATTERSON: Charlie...

POP BEASLEY: Charlie Boy, and Sophia. That's all. Isn't it? But, Mrs. Duffy was a very delightful person interested in the History

of New Bern. She was from Knoxville, Tennessee. Her mother and father were of the old Chapman Drug Company in Knoxville, and she was vitally interested in everything historical. And I've seen pictures of this very famous historical event you all had in New Bern '29 maybe or '28 when the governor came down and the carriages were all, and it was very festive for two or three days. And Mrs. Duffy was instrumental in getting that done. Dr. Duffy, her husband, was an avid physician and was always learning or working hard with his profession and she had time to do these things after raising her children. But in this very room right here, she went to great lengths to negotiate with Mrs. Latham to eventually get the Tryon Palace complex brought together.

I learned a little bit of her life and her interest when Senator Morgan was Attorney General and they wanted to present something in honor of Mrs. Duffy and I was asked to make a presentation in her behalf.

I had a chance to interview Mary Ward, Mary Boylan, Carrie Duffy Ward, Boody Hawk, and Boody's sister, Helen Eaton.

DR. JOSEPH PATTERSON: Helen?

POP BEASLEY: Helen, yeah. Can't even remember Helen's last name, but she went to school with Bob Pugh and Libby Ward. But anyway, through these women I learned just how much her activity had meant to New Bern and to the area as far as historical events were concerned. And as you know, both of you know, evolved the Historical Society and later the Historical Foundation which I was privileged to be the second chairman of, and I've been interested in the history and the restoration of things here. I think carrying on probably from her would probably

be Robert Lee Stallings as far as history and whatnot's concerned.

He redid this house we're sitting in, and I think he was the first one to really start pushing downtown historic New Bern and it just took like wild fire. So many of the young people came in and got it and Robert Lee moved over to another one and did it, and it's gone on. But Mrs. Duffy died an early death. One of her children ended up quite an artist and in this very house, her daughter, Minnette, had Tyrone Power for dinner once or twice right there in that dining room which I think is a little unusual.

DR. JOSEPH PATTERSON: When he was a Marine?

POP BEASLEY: When he was a Marine captain. A little local interest. Dickie was a general practitioner and went back and got his dermatology degree and Charlie Boy had two large shoe stores in Knoxville and married a delightful woman you probably know that was a physician here...Mary, what was Dickie's wife... Mary what? She was practicing here in public health when you were...

DR. JOSEPH PATTERSON: Yes, yes. I know Mary.

POP BEASLEY: Mary, I can't remember her last name. And then Sophie had three children by a New Bern boy and they were separated and she later married a Taylor from Raleigh. But I guess, really, Mrs. Duffy's urging and Miss (Gertrude) Carraway's ability to organize and get things moving, they made a great, great couple. I think that between them that we can almost attribute the birth of Tryon Palace to those two ladies.

DR. JOSEPH PATTERSON: Pop, an important thing in this story of

New Bern we're trying to put together, is civil rights and integration and what happened in New Bern during this period. The Martin Luther King tragedy and so forth. And you were here and you're a very discerning person, how do you remember those times in New Bern.

POP BEASLEY: Well, I guess in retrospect, Joe Pat, we had no problems. I think the people of this community were very considerate and very thoughtful of the colored race. Maybe you might attribute this to Mr. Diggs. I'm not sure. The editor of the newspaper. But I remember the morning that Martin Luther King was killed. One of the local black implants wanted to incite a riot on Middle Street, a march on Middle Street, and Mr. Diggs didn't even put the Martin Luther King murder on the front page. I think his lead article that day, if I remember correctly, was something about salmon fishing in Alaska. But it all filtered out. I do know that the years that I worked with the Chamber of Commerce two of the finest supporters of the chamber, one Mr. Rivers and Oscar Dove who later got himself in serious trouble. But they would do such things as when we were fixing to have a labor union, Don Deichmann and I were, did the labor work here for four or five years, and they would, you know you can't go into Dodge City or to Duffy Field or what not unless you have an insurance check or, you just can't find a black person. But they would have a burial insurance meeting for us and go over their burial program and then say, now, Mr. Deichmann and Mr. Beasley want to say a few words about the telephone company or about the Coca Cola Company. So they were great citizens.

DR. JOSEPH PATTERSON: They would have you at this meeting?

POP BEASLEY: Yeah, we would come. My wife and I had an old man that worked for us that was black. He was about 5' 4" tall and could lift 600 pounds. He used to work in the ice factory. And I never will forget when all this came about, the guy said, Captain, he said, let me tell you. Said all this integration and bus and eating and whatnot with the white folks, he said, why don't you just go ahead and let them do it. Says in sixty days they'll all be back in Frog Pond anyway. I thought that was pretty good philosophy. But no, I don't think, Joe Pat, I have not seen this. I served in the sixties on the Civil Service Commission with a gentlemen who was in the real estate business here, an AAC office. His name escapes me right now. Black. Never served with a more intelligent man. Never had any problems. We interviewed all the police. In those days we were having trouble getting the policemen paid a living wage. I worked with the mayor and the hospital board and I have not seen a problem in this town. I think some of the young blacks as well as some of the young whites have lost all respect for law and order. And I think we are probably going to have it, but, our generation, I don't think so.

DR. JOSEPH PATTERSON: Pop, another thing that's important to this town is the medical community and the hospital situation. I, as a former physician here, I'm amazed at the excellence of the medical facilities and the physicians and other personnel who are here. You played a big role in all of this. You were chairman of the new hospital board. Would you care to just comment on all of this as you recall

it and your role in this.

POP BEASLEY: I think first I'd like to say this, Joe Pat. I have never in my entire life had a more challenging or a more satisfying job than that of being Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the hospital.

We were not in good financial times in those days, and we did come out of it. But my first experience, you might be interested, with the hospital at Cherry Point, I mean at New Bern was in the Hazel hurricane of 1954. I was assistant G4 at the base and St. Vincent's had no power, and we had extra generators and I've forgotten who called me from New Bern, but we were able to get a couple of 300 KW Generators up there behind the old hospital. And they remained there throughout the time of the storm.

DR. JOSEPH PATTERSON: Was this at St. Luke's?

POP BEASLEY: St. Luke's, yes. The old St. Luke's Hospital. And of course, I remember the old Kafer Hospital too. And I remember the bond issue here. We went through first the, wasn't it the Baptist that wanted to build a hospital and everybody got took and then finally we got the county hospital. I was not here during the early phases.

I think Lonny Moore did an outstanding job. I think, maybe, he was unfairly treated as the administrator, but I think in those days when I went, when I was first appointed to the board, we were quite a few dollars in debt and it was just a matter of going over the entire program of the hospital. And, of course, we had the scandal of the Ham Scan and all this junk that was, made it difficult to do a good job with the attack of the newspapers. But with all this, we were, without

a doubt, the finest regional hospital in my opinion in North Carolina.

I don't say this with any reservation. I visited probably 60% or 70% of the county hospitals within the state and I found that we had many short comings within our hospital, and I asked the board if they would allow me to go to Hospital Corporation of America which I did in Tennessee. And they came over and they gave us an overview of our problems and they wanted what I thought was an astronomical amount of money to do the work to assist us in the legal for not only for our own local work, but for labor relations. And our bookkeeping procedures were antiquated as far as hospitals was concerned. The insurance program was not good. I think one of the largest, and I'm not being critical of this, Joe Pat, please accept it as such, one of the largest drains on the hospital was the physicians being, you are all prima donnas. You wouldn't be doctors if you weren't. So each wants his own, but each department, whatever phase of medicine they were in, if they wanted a, let's say a dialysis machine. There was one in the basement when I came there and it was brand new, that had never been uncrated. Been there six years. Lonny was so great in trying to do everything that you all wanted him to do to make it a fine hospital that his budget over ran his income for some of these equipments. I remember Bill Bell had bought a, it begins with a c.

DR. JOSEPH PATTERSON: A CAT scanner?

CS: A CAT scan. They didn't have money, but I called the hospital, the doctors of the hospital together. They had a little board and talked to them. And I said, look, we got so many dollars we can

attribute to capital growth as far as equipment is concerned and would you guys sit down and when one of the physicians wants something, you categorize it all together and then you pick which ones have the highest priority that can fall within our budget. We saved over a million dollars the first year on this type of thing. There were a lot of things being bought that became really unnecessary when the whole doctor complex reviewed it. I think the hardest thing we had to fight and I don't know but what it's not good, was the association between the political entity and running a hospital. You know when people are sick they find so much fault and when it's an emergency room, they find a lot of fault because they are hurt or suffering, and if you're not there right now, they don't understand it. And then the commissioners got in it and they, everything screams to high heaven.

Every little instance, but in this period of time that I was there, we were growing like topsy to be the very finest regional hospital and these guys were recruiting these doctors, these doctors were recruiting the finest bevy of doctors that's ever been anywhere. I would say better than Durham County. Now that's saying a lot. These guys had every, trying to think what we didn't have in those days. We didn't have open heart surgery.

DR. JOSEPH PATTERSON: Neurosurgery?

POP BEASLEY: Well, yes, you see, no, we didn't have until the guy that joined with Muther. Incidentally, we talked the other day about this alcoholic information, how Ellis Muther got here and he has been, I think, an addition to the medical society, but we were

the first ones to go to the county commissioners with the idea of a revenue sharing bond to build this new wing. That they'd determined that we had to have 54 new beds, I think, and it had to be approved at the regional and the state level. We got approval but we had no money.

And we decided that we were going to go revenue sharing. Well it was a real effort educating the county commissioners and the county manager, who was brand new, on what a revenue sharing bond was. We finally got them to agree that we could do it. So we forged ahead.

Got an architect firm out of Charlotte to do our planning, and I'm rambling a little bit and I'm sorry, but we wanted at that time to put the wing in and we wanted to put in an out patient surgical unit within the complex and modernize the galley, the kitchen, and so forth and the emergency room. It was a seven point, it was in the seven million dollars, seven point two, seven point four, and I want you to know we only raised the rates twice in this six years, five years, and at the end of the year, end of that five years, we were able to pay cash for that wing and did not have to float a revenue sharing bond. And it's one thing I'm very, very proud of. But I think the hospital has grown now in my own opinion and I'm not in it now, so I shouldn't be judging, but I don't know that any longer that New Bern should be the regional center. With the advent of the learning hospital at Greenville, maybe we should have been, instead of letting us grow some, maybe we should have gotten some money spent in Greenville to let them grow some. I know the hospital staff won't agree with me on that. They like to grow, but none the less, I just think that this

is the finest medical complex. And, Joe Pat, I think I can say without reservation that your partnership with your brother brought in some of the finest young doctors that, Larry Erdman, men of his caliber. You had a man in that did eyes that was one of the outstanding eye, ear, nose...

DR. JOSEPH PATTERSON: Alan Davidson.

POP BEASLEY: Alan Davidson, one of the outstanding men. He was a friend of my brother's and Alan was back in the days when you did both ear, nose, and throat, eye, ear, nose, and throat. And his son has perpetuated which is good. Now I just think this hospital complex here can't be beat. I think sometimes they pay too high a salaries.

I think sometimes they should not have bought the surgical center, but these are personal things and I don't know the insides.

DR. JOSEPH PATTERSON: Well, Pop, you played a big role in getting all that going. I know the value of these doctors and in my job in the accreditation program traveling all over the country. I bragged about the medical staff and facilities in New Bern where ever I went.

I said you'd never believe what's going on in our small town in North Carolina. Well, look Pop, I think we ought to stop this. It's been a fine interview and I've asked you about lots of things that there's just no time to go into all of the things that you've been involved in, but let me ask you this. Are there things that you would like to address that we've not addressed?

POP BEASLEY: Oh, I guess, Joe Pat, I'm more concerned right now about government at all levels in New Bern, in the county, in the state,

and in the federal government. I guess I'm business man enough that I can't understand why when you see IBM and GE and Kodak and Boeing and all these wonderful corporations cutting anywhere from five to ten to twenty percent in payroll that here our governments are growing all out of proportion to our growth in humanity. And I think some how some way we've got to get across to the people who govern at all levels that there comes a time when the people are going to pay no more tax dollars to let them subsist. The dollar you send to Washington, you get sixty cents of it, I mean, you get forty cents back. Sixty cents is spent in Washington. I don't know what the ratio is in Raleigh, but I am concerned about the lack of interest of the young businessmen in their city, in their county, in their state. I'm tickled to death to hear that a young man by the name of Tom Bayliss is a native New Bernian and is going to run for mayor. I'd like to see that as a beginning. Lauch Faircloth's a good friend of mine. You can't do it there. You've got to start here and let the people, the elected officials, know that they are working for us and they're not, you don't divorce yourself from the human race just because you get elected to a public office. I think that's my deepest concern.

DR. JOSEPH PATTERSON: Well, Pop, this is probably a good point to stop. I want to tell you that this has been a fine interview and it's taken a lot of your time and your time's valuable. I appreciate it and this Memories Program appreciates it.

POP BEASLEY: Had nothing else to do. Nothing else to do and it's a pleasure. Really, Joe Pat, this area has been so good to me. I've tried to put a little back, but we're through, Duff.

DUFF: Well, I was just going to shut this door.

DR. JOSEPH PATTERSON: We're finished and I'm going to turn this off now. So here we go.

END OF INTERVIEW