

ORAL HISTORY WITH DON TUBBS

My name is Jerry Wasser. It is now approximately 1:05 p.m. on Friday, July 16, 1999. I will be conducting an oral history interview with Don Tubbs, a life long resident of Glendale and the interview will be now.

Jerry: Don, I know from speaking with you both in person and the telephone that you lived in Glendale and you were born and lived here just about all your life. What caused your parents to move here?

Don: Thank you Jerry. That's a very interesting part about Glendale as well as my family's history. My father, as a young soldier in training for World War I, 1918 was sent to Arahurang(?) in the hills above the college now in San Rafael, and he recalled that he spent several days there. And he recalled what a beautiful site that he saw looking down from the hills and this was 1918. That's what started the whole thing and in fact as you know I have a picture of that and a copy that will be fun for people to see what the hills was like from those days as well what stared at least my family. He loved the area and after the war, he was Idaho Falls area so there he met my mom. She was in an ice cream polar.

Jerry: Idaho Falls, Iowa?

Don: Idaho Falls, Iowa, yes. They met and subsequently got married there and lived there for a while. My older brother was born there, Billy Guy Tubbs and shortly after that I think sometimes in the mid-'20s, '23s, '24s, something like that, they moved to Glendale.

Jerry: What were your parents names Don?

Don: My father's name is Guy Tubbs, no middle name and my mother's name is Ruby Wuanita V___ Tubbs, married to my dad. And they moved to Glendale and my dad was a truck driver at the time, got a job calling for a fruit, feed and grain for a feed and grain store, somewhere on San Fernando Road.

Jerry: In Glendale?

Don: Yes. In Glendale.

Jerry: Do you what year that was that they moved here?

Don: I believe it was 1925. And they..... also my sister was born here. She was born in the Glendale Sanitarium or Glendale Memorial Hospital which is now referred to. Actually, I was born in a hospital in Los Angeles, just over the border.

Jerry: What year was that?

Don: I was born in 1934 and my sister was born..... Well I got to correct something, my sister is 10 years older than me. She was born in 1924 and they had just moved, they've been here about a few months, so they moved here in 1924. So that started our life in Glendale. It's interesting all of us went through the Glendale school system which we can get into a little later for me. My mom and dad bought there first home after working and saving for, of course, it was depression, and it was tough times. So they saved up enough money to buy a basic home. What they found was, it is really interesting, this was about 1935 or 1936, there was a frame home, a two-story frame home for sale to be moved. And it was on where the Sears and Roebuck store is today. And so they talked to the man selling the home and he said well there are several lots in Glendale, go look at these, pick one out and I'll move your home to that lot and set it up. So they found a lot at 525 Griswold Street, one up from the corner of Griswold and Maple and that frame home was moved there.

Jerry: You know, I find that a phenomenal story because in today's code, in the municipal code, you can't do that anymore.

Don: I know, but they did that back then. So that was my home up until I was a teenager, I was more less raised in that home. That's what I recall about that. The depression times were particularly tuff as many families experienced in the 30's and even the early 40's. Said to say the war turned that around but because it made jobs available. My dad had some tuff times and I can remember as a young boy, one of the biggest treats was for my dad to take me to the Glendale Train Station and that to watch the steam trains come in, the big steam trains--this is now probably late 30's, early 40's, that time frame from what I remember. And I can remember there was a white painted line right as closest as you can get on the tracks as the trains will come in out of L.A. up through Glendale. And my dad would say you gotta be brave, you got to stand up right next to this white line, of course being a little fellow to see the big giants come through kind of scared me. And I could remember what a thrill it was to finally be brave enough to stand there with my toes on the white line with the big steam trains coming through our little depot. And to this day, I love our depot and trains to me are very special, special experience.

Jerry: Was that white line a limit line?

Don: Yeah it was a limit line for passengers and people not to get any closer to than that to the train and it was like from where I am standing to that book case which is probably, what, six or seven feet. It was close enough, the wheels were taller than me, you know, very tall about six feet.

Jerry: What a phenomenal memory of your dad for doing that for creating courage in you.

Don: I can remember another experience I had. My dad bought me a speedometer for my bicycle. So what's a little kid do when he got a speedometer for his bicycle to see how fast he could go. Well as I told I live on Grisewold Street. There weren't many hill around there so I drove down to Adams Hill and went about 3 quarters of the way up Adams Hill and turned around and start peddling for all its worth. I got that up to 35 and

I realized that my brakes weren't working too good. The wheel was wobbling and as it slowly start slowing down, I was approaching Palmer and Adams Hill and I'm sure in today's traffic, I would have never made it but back then, I made a big sweeping turn to the left on Palmer off of Adams Hill and sworn I never do that again.

Jerry: But I'm sure it was exciting anyway.

Don: Very.

Jerry: And I'm glad nothing happy especially the proximally that one of the business's that was here at Adams Hill.

Don: You know what that area is like today, you can't imagine at the time there wasn't much traffic on our streets, one or two cars parked and not many people. And of course as a young fellow maybe 8, 9 or 10 years of age shouldn't have been doing that. I'm sure one of your kids, if you give them a speedometer, they will want to test it, right.

Jerry: As a bicyclist, I can identify with that.

Don: I have some things to talk about in the are of my school but we can talk about that..

Jerry: What I was wondering, you know during the depression, lots of people was really suffering tuff times. You mentioned that your dad worked for a fruit, feed and grain supply house that as a truck driver, what that kind of _____ me that they may be lots of farms in Glendale that he may have delivered to, it that true?

Don: In the San Fernando Valley, yes and up above in the La Crescenta and Montrose area, the Orange Groves and San Fernando Valley---you went into Burbank, you gonna be a little bit passed the edge of Burbank and it was wide open. There were ranches and facilities like that, farms and things in San Fernando Valley.

Jerry: Was he able to keep his job all the way through the depression?

Don: No, he was out of work quite a bit, but my dad was the type of a guy that I always remember he told me that when you are out of work, you still get up every day at 7:00 a.m. and look for a job until you get it, 7 to 5. So he was always able to find work of some kind. He got a pretty good job with this Swogan's dry cleaning company, just off of Los Feliz off of San Fernando Road, Swogan's dry cleaners. So he at.....drove a dry cleaning truck. It was probably in the late 30's to the early 40's. And after the war broke out, he applied for a security guard position at Lockheed and became a security guard all through the war at Lockheed. It's interesting too because he became a marksmen with its 38 police special and he was really proud of that. It went on after the war when the war was over and there wasn't that much need for aircraft industry and things. He had to look for another job. Because of his security guard training and his ability to handle the pistol properly, he applied for and got a private detective license and worked for I think it was called Gerber Private Detective Agency, did a lot of private detective work. An interesting story associated with Glendale on that, he was hired for a while to

be a undercover officer in the Alex Theatre and not that we were having big crime, but I think management was concerned about the rowdy teenagers hanging out in the upper balcony. And so my dad was hired as an undercover officer to just keep the peace in case the guys get rowdy and stuff. He was a not a tall man but he had good big shoulder on him and he never had to pull his weapon. He kept it in holster under his coat and but he was always able to cool the fights or things that might have gone on at that time. And he would always tell me says if you always tell me if you are going to movies tonight, remember we don't know each other.

Jerry: That's funny, how funny. When you were a kid, during those years, were there places that you and your friends would go to play? Were there lots of open spaces?

Don: Yes. Being near Griswold and Maple Street, if you are familiar with the area near Verdugo Road, we right up from the G Hill, of course there's the freeway now there. We would quite often use that hilly area what we call the G Hill, were the Glendale G sign is for the high school, we would hike that. That was big summer time play. Of course, we would always get poison oak and all that sort of thing, but that was our main--take our lunch and go up into the hills.

Jerry: Were there lots of wild animals that you would see up there?

Don: Well I recall seeing coyotes and snakes and small b____. I never saw any bobcats or mountain lions. That I've seen in the Verdugo's up there, like where Shirlyjean is back there, where is the---that wilderness area back in there is where a lot of beautiful hiking trails in there. But we used to go up in the G Hill quite a bit and we would also go to Maple Park. I considered the South Glendale, my old area, Adams Hill, Maple Park area. I went to John Muir Grammar School and I went to the Chevy Chase Baptist Church for that whole area where my friends and buddies and we just kind of hung out together. I remember a story that is associated with that area that might be interesting to you. A lot of this was hearsay at the time at the time that black people weren't allowed in Glendale after hours, you know as I got older, I recall a story in real life and there was a... Right on Maple Street between Griswold and Verdugo Road, I had a friend that had in the backyard of their home, their parents, had a large oversized garage and workshop and they apparently rented this out to a black man who built beautiful, beautiful speedboats.

Jerry: Oh really.

Don: And so us kids, of course it was a wood shop as far as we're concerned, hey, it was fun to watch this. And he would make a stick toy like the little horses to play with, when you were 8, 9, 10 years old, whatever--when you were 6 years old, you play with the kind of toys and they were really fun. He was such a nice man. As matter of fact, his name was Jolly, that was his name, Mr. Jolly, we called him Mr. Jolly. It may have been first name, last name, it may have been a nickname, but he was Mr. Jolly to all us kids. And I can remember one time, it was about dusk and I went over there, my friend wasn't there, so I knocked on the door cause I wanted to ask Mr. Jolly, you know, if I _____ something, get me another stick toy, or can I have a piece, he was gonna scrap when

we go home and make bird houses and stuff. And he didn't come to the door first, and then opened the door just a crack and he looked scared but I didn't know what it was about, I just all I remember is he was the same Jolly _____ man that as he was during the day, when we would always be over there. And he asked me to come back in the morning. So I don't every remember going back, but I remember that incident. And I remember later on adults as I grew older, adults would tell us well they, the blacks, had to get of Glendale by 6:00 p.m. and Jolly was gonna stay the night at his workshop, cause he was working late to get a boat out. He was afraid that maybe somebody was after him.

Jerry: What a sign of the times and how things has changed. Do you recall any other minority groups in Glendale during those years when you were a kid?

Don: I had a very good friend, it's interesting, and I didn't have that in my notes too. Oh yes, I had a very good friend lived down Verdugo Road, a Japanese boy and family and I can remember the trucks coming and taking them away to camp.

Jerry: In the early 40's.

Don: When they all.....

Jerry: When they went to.....

Don: When they went to the internment camps. I didn't understand that.

Jerry: Do you recall what his family did? I know there was a lot of strawberry farming in South Glendale in the tropical area. I remember some Japanese families who were doing that.

Don: I don't recall. I was too young. I was only like 10, 9 or 10 years old. I don't remember that.

Jerry: You started to mention earlier that you were going to tell me a bit about your schooling in Glendale.

Don: Okay, Thank you, that's perfect timing. I went to John Muir Grammar School, which is down off of Chevy Chase. I started at kindergarten there. I remember my first day at kindergarten, I went there and matter of fact, I can remember like as if it was today. My mom dropped me off there and took me aside and I had the hand of the teacher and she let go of my hand and I looked around and I had that moment to escape ad I ran out the front door and I ran out the front door and ran all the way home. That's about a half a mile away. I ran all the way home.

Jerry: You know I have a son whose gonna start kindergarten in September. I hope that doesn't happen to him.

Don: And it's funny because my next recollection, I remember that because I remember staying underneath the bed for hours and the phone rang and it was Mrs. Chase.

Interesting enough, her name was Mrs. Chase even though it was on Chevy Chase.... She was the principal of the John Muir School that was in probably 1939, 1940, somewhere in there, 40, 41. And I thought it was my grandmother and she says, oh this is not your grandmother, this is Mrs. Chase, principal of the John Muir School. That was it, back under the bed. I don't have another recollection other than being in kindergarten and experiencing really good childhood. It was a very good school, a lot of fun. A significant thing for us during the war at John Muir School, we would bring our quarters, nickels and dimes every week to donate to help the war cause. And as young people, we were able to buy a jeep for the soldiers.

Jerry: The school did?

Don: Yes. The kids did and the school. It was quite a fund raising plan. And it was associated with parents and war b_____ things like that. We, the kids, bought a jeep and brought it to the school to take a picture of it with us. I still have that picture somewhere. I have to find that.

Jerry: Incredible! That will be nice if you could lend that to us for copying. Do you recall, do you have any recollection at all of Pearl Harbor Don in 1941?

Don: Yes I do. It's interesting that you ask me that because I do. We were driving down Verdugo Road, right about where Glendale Avenue and Verdugo Road comes together, there is a gas station there right now, I don't recall, near Rossmoyne area. We have been visiting my aunt and uncle. They lived in Montrose and I was in the back seat of the car and my dad said hush up, listen, and then they had radio in the car and I remember hearing it. My dad kept telling me what war meant. I remember that to this day.

Jerry: And you were 7 years old at the time.

Don: That was 1941.... Yes, in fact, I just turned 7.

Jerry: Did the mood of the country seem to change drastically? Do you have any recollection on that?

Don: I recall the blackouts; I recall my dad had to work extra time at Lockheed, going on graveyard. I recall having to be rationed, you know food rationing and gasoline stamps and sugar stamps; I recall of that quite a bit. And of course my brother, Billy Guy Tobbs, went off to war and fortunately came back from the war. That's what I recall on that.

Jerry: I know that you were gonna go on about your elementary school.

Don: I don't recall much more than that through John Muir, as far as significant things to Glendale or to the schools. Wilson Junior High, at the time that Wilson was on the same grounds as the Glendale High School. I lot of people don't realize that.

Jerry: And where was that located?

Don: At Broadway and Verdugo in Glendale, right where the Glendale High School is now. Of course it is a totally different structure. It was a beautiful, beautiful building and they're a lot like the Glendale College architecture, but it wasn't earthquake safe so it had to be torn down. Unfortunately, today's climate we would have saved it somehow. It had a gorgeous bell tower. In fact, the bell tower shade was in Boston, although the school stylist in the 40's and 50s, it was a gorgeous, gorgeous architecture piece. But the Wilson Junior High School shared a couple of the buildings from the High School and so we mingled with the high school kids and you started.... I was always a person interested in shops, in wood shops, metal shops, of course, the facilities were the same for high school and junior high school, so we got to know some of the older kids, a few old high school kids from junior high was a unique experience and very fun. I met some really good people. In junior high school, I was in the band. I played the timpani drums and the base drum for the band. That was probably two years in junior high school.

Jerry: Don, if you don't mind me interrupting you, I know that you told me in me in the past in past discussion and I know that you even given a photo of your dad in the Glendale German Bugle Corps to me for copying for our archives, do you think you got that musical ability from your father?

Don: I am glad you asked me about that cause my dad did play in the Glendale American Legion Post 127 bugle and drum corps for well over 30 years, from the early 30's up through the early 60's up to the point where he didn't figure he could still carry the big drum down the street. He played snare drums early on and he went into the base drums in the later years but that was a really fun experience. Yes I was impressed with that and I did enjoy the drums very much and played in the Junior High School band. As I said, I was a shop person and really enjoyed the shops that the Glendale High School had at the time. They had a full training program for people who wanted to become into drafting or design or machine shops. So I took quite a few, as a matter of fact by the 9th grade, I was already knew where my strong points were, it was in drafting and so I started vocational drafting when I went to high school. Of course I went right on to Glendale High right from Wilson and.....

Jerry: So there was really no change of campus? You just kind of move over to different classes.

Don: No, not for me. I only lived a couple of blocks away on Griswold Street. We did move from 525 Griswold when I was in high school up to the other end of Griswold Street, 312 Griswold Street and unfortunately, the 525, the house that was moved from the Sears and Roebuck lot, somewhere in the 70's it caught fire to the owners that bought it from us and burnt beyond replacement so we it had to be torn down and rebuilt. But I can remember hearing about it and went back down there with my wife and we asked if we could go into the building and I was able to carefully walk through the building that I was raised in before the tore it down. But they did move the 312 Griswold Street, now that's the top of the street right behind the building which used to be a dime store right there

on the corner of Griswold and Colorado and so it was a really short walk for me to Wilson Junior High School. Of course in high school, you had to have a car...

Jerry: Is 312 Griswold still standing?

Don: Yes, 312 Griswold is still there. In fact, its been remolded a little bit, but it is the same home that I was in through high school.

Jerry: I interrupted you and I think you about to tell me about your first car.

Don: Well, before I tell you about my first car, that goes back, I had my first car in junior high school, not many kids could say that. But yeah, that's the car type experience. Let me tell about those, okay.

Jerry: Sure!

Don: My first car, my dad had a 34 Chevrolet and he taught me drive with this 34 Chevrolet stick-shift car and I was 14 and a half years of age. At that time, you could get what they call a junior operators permit which allowed you to as a person to drive to and from school, to and from work and the evenings with a licensed driver at 14 and a half. So I was very fortunate. So I had in the later part of the 9th grade. In the 10th grade, I had my 34 Ford, 5-window coupe.

Jerry: I was just about to ask you that because I remember those, not when they were new, but I remember them later.

Don: I still love the Fords today. As a matter of fact, the old fords. I started my driving and I can remember a lot of the.... explain something about my getting my drivers license, the significant in Glendale. At the time, in order to get your test, to pass your test and get your license, you were required to be able to up Palmer Hill, up off of South Glendale Boulevard, Palmer Hill. You have to.....its fairly narrow, pretty good grade and go up Palmer and you had to stop and go forward without letting the car roll backwards. And I remember my dad teaching telling that and I practiced it and practiced it. Then also he said in somewhere along the line, the man is gonna test you on parallel parking which you gotta be able to back up and park in between two cars. Unbeknown to me, that day I took my test, the instructor decided to give the Palmer test and the parallel parking on Palmer. And I can remember this to this day, my left foot was wiggling on the clutch, but I did, I got my license.

Jerry: So you had it parked going down?

Don: No, I had to.....which made it a little bit easier. Going up hill, I had to find a parallel spot and back into it without more than, what, 2 or 3 times, I guess and then pull out of that. And I think part of that, you had to stop and go forward without rolling back. And I thought once I did that, oh boy all the pressure is over with now. And we went up a little further and he said now I want you to parallel park in that spot and as I went by there, I just froze and it was really.... ___ ___ still take that little ride right now if you want to go

up Palmer Hill sometime to see what how I used to have to test in those days. Well, I can kind of talk about high school and cars

Jerry: If you don't mind, if you don't mind at all, I think we really want to here that.

Don: When I went to Glendale High School, of course I indicated earlier I was pretty much of a shop major and I told you that they really had good shops. I got to tell you about a funny incident that in about oh I guess I was in the 10th or 11th grade, I can't remember, it was probably 50 or 51 and in the shop classes at the southern part of the campus near Colorado Boulevard there but we had two stories--the drafting room was up on the second floor and you can overlook the foothill field and way up to the science building in that area. Well, next the science building there was a vacant building there was a vacant lot with a old wooden shed structure, been there for years and nobody paid much attention to it except for this one day the word got passed in the morning that the word got passed in the morning at 1 o'clock where ever you are, look to field north of the, I guess east and north of the science building at exactly 1 o'clock. Now the significance of this is only to enforce the fact that its not the reason why the Glendale High School team is called the Dynamiters but somebody had decided that they want to emphasize the fact that they were, some kids were Dynamiters and I guess some of the rowdy guys decided to blow up the building precisely at 1 o'clock. We were all looking out like that--we don't know what we suppose to look at but we looked at that and I remember seeing, before I could even hear it, I saw the roof of the building lift up like that and then it just went right to the ground like that. So they knew how to do it and nobody was hurt, but it was wrong thing to do, but that really sent the message that there Glendale High School Dynamiters were around.

Jerry: Probably funny and retrospect but it if something like happens today, its a whole different era.

Don: It wasn't funny then, believe they searched those kids down and they were, I sure, dealt with severely. As an incident as an experience, I had to tell the story. During high school I was very fortunate and my folks were very supportive of me. I was a pretty good student, worked hard, was a pretty kid. No kid is perfect but knew I was a car person and they help me buy my first new car and so.....

Jerry: What year in high school?

Don: When I was in high school, I was a senior, I think at that time, just going in to become a senior. Before being a senior, I bought a brand new 1951 For Victoria. The green and white Victoria, it was beautiful. Of course at that time, it was the hot riders and the custom car guys who were doing there special treatments to their cars so I did the same thing; shaved my hood and put a three quarter cam in it and put dual parts on it and skurs(?) and had a really good time in high school and did a lot of cruising on Brand Boulevard. Did a little drag racing on Brand Boulevard, but we were always treated pretty nice by the cops and they will pull us over and say you're not going to do that anymore, are you? And we cut it out.

Jerry: And then you'll be back again?

Don: Oh no. Well, maybe not that night. That's kind of beginning of my.....

Jerry: Would it be nice if you still had that car? I bet it would be worth a pretty penny today.

Don: Well, I wish I still have my '34 Ford. But I loved the Fords. I went onto...at that time I joined a hot rider club. There was a group called "the esquires," a group of guys from Glendale and Burbank that formed a hot riders club. And we were nationally interested in promoting cars and cars as a sport and at that time, there was a lot of street drag racing that was really getting bad and as a group, we promoted going to the drag strips and we just started to open up at Saugus and Santa Ana and places like that. The guy's hot riders and their cars had a bad reputation here in Southern California, probably all over. And so these clubs were a way to promote organized events to be safe and to encourage the fellows' street racing. We worked the City of Glendale. I can remember, in fact there is newspaper clippings that show our club painting street signs like "speed kills, take it easy" or "speed kills, slow down" we must have stenciled a hundred of those at intersections all over Glendale. We worked with the property of Glendale Planning Division.

Jerry: Sounds like that it may have been your first experience with government in Glendale as well?

Don: I think it may have been. Because I remember we met somewhere in one of the buildings and they would tell us where to meet and what to do and we got organized and we did that quite a bit for off and on for years. So we also put on a event at Glendale High School for an afternoon of guys to bring their cars and drive them around the track that was there and we had like special _____ driving in and out the _____ and things like that and give little words something like esquire car club that I belonged to we promote put on that event and that was quite a fun time.

Jerry: It sounds kind of like a precursor of the cruise nights that the City's Parks and Recreation Department put on.

Don: Well a recall precursor, four years later. But it was the beginning. Glendale has just always has been a wonderful place. We got real big cooperation from the School District and Glendale helped us put on that event. And we went on to do other events in Pasadena but they're not significant as Glendale. That's about when I went into the Navy. Well I graduated from Glendale High School and I went into the Service.

Jerry: What year was that?

Don: 1952, October 1952, I joined the U.S. Navy.

Jerry: Was the Korean conflict?

Don: During the Korean conflict. Because I was 17, I graduated at 17 and, I was a young starter. Maybe that day they took me to kindergarten I was too young, but I went in the Navy at 17 and when you went into the Navy, you got out when you were 21. So all through high school, I continued my vocational work in the shops in s_____ sh_____ and drafting, became a vocational student in drafting and went into the Navy as a, what they call a high school semi apprentice which meant that you were guaranteed school. So after boot camp, I went to special training in Oklahoma for becoming an aircraft structure mechanic and after school from there, I picked a base here in San Diego and commuted from Glendale, not commuted, on weekends I come up to visit family and friends but I was stationed in San Diego for my whole Navy career. And of course also I learned more about drafting, welding machine shop, and anything to do with how things work and.....

Jerry: Did you spend time overseas as well?

Don: No I didn't, I did not leave the States. My closest association with combat was flying in a...we used to go out on flying missions out over Coronado Island, out over the ocean and we would tote targets for the destroyers to shoot at and I would sit in the torte of like a torpedo bomber that had been converted, World War II torpedo bomber, which had been converted to a wench to pay out cabling in a target. And my job was, I had headphones or a radio on and the pilot would say when it was time to let it go out and bring it in and then an aircraft carrier will shoot at us. Of course that was fun just like...

Jerry: I'm glad that you're here and that they were at you,

Don: They never did hit the target much but may quit when I say bring ____ _____. That's part if ,,,, I went on how to get back to Glendale. After the Navy, I took the experience that I had in drafting and anything to do with repairing aircraft and working with things, physical things and looked in the paper that weekend of 19... December 12, around that time, 1955 and then there was an ad in the for draftsman trainee at Libra Scope Corporation in Glendale, on Sonora. And 44 years later, I am still there. Actually, I am there now as a consultant. I retired in 1993, actually I got laid off due to the cut back in Aerospace but was immediately hired back as a consultant offered part time off and on and its been very rewarding career for these years.

Jerry: Can you explain some of your experiences with Libra Scope, what the company does generally and perhaps some of the projects that you worked with?

Don: Yes, I'll be glad to. During the war, Libra Scope was noted for its weapon systems firing control.

Jerry: This is World War II?

Don: This is World War II and Mr. Louey Yin, he was founder of Libra Scope in 1937. He was an inventor of mechanical mechanisms that would calculate weight and position for loading aircraft. He was the inventor of the first weight and balance machine. Hence the name Libra Scope, the weight and balance machine that he invented was used for

loading cargo planes so they wouldn't overload it, wouldn't under load it and would properly load it. So it went on from there to build a company here in Glendale to produce weapons systems for destroyers which would aim the big guns and position them from range and bearing so that they would fire and hit the targets.

Jerry: Did you know why he located in Glendale? Have he lived here?

Don: He actually lived in Burbank. No, excuse me. He actually had a building in Burbank and I think there must have been maybe the right piece of ground, the right person, I read some of our history and I recall now, our history--I mean Libra Scope regarding there was someone he was in business with that offered him a really good deal on a building there on Flower Street. We call our building No.1 which I believe I also gave you a picture of. That was the beginning of Libra Scope in the '40s. And in the '50s when I joined them, they had gone on to build quite a reputation with the military both in weapon system control, weapon control, weapon systems control, fire control, we call it, not to be confused with burning fire, but weapon shooting fire, and to the point where we were now developing systems for the for the submarine fleets and when I came on board there in December of 55, we were working on mostly destroyer work and within a couple of years, we were of working systems for submarines. They were all mechanical and there weren't computers like we have today so all the calculations were done mechanical with what they call sign, co-sign machines, revolver tables, differentials--all done with mechanical linkages. And because of my drafting experience in mechanical, hands-on, if you will, knowledge, I just really had a good association with it. I clicked with it and went on to right up the ranks from draftsman trainee to up through I was designer within a couple of years and I was an engineer by 1960 at the company. And then I've been with them through their years from when they built weapon systems for almost every class of submarine up to the, in fact, the latest submarine that's coming out will be produced by Lockheed Martin Libra Scope. They bought us here just a few years ago.

Jerry: I had no idea.

Don: Yes. Lockheed Martin bought Libra Scope here just 2, 3 years ago and moved all the submarine work back to Manassas, Virginia. But Libra Scope is still here in Glendale dedicated to a news rep in the world, the threat of nuclear biological chemical war fare and we now are doing research where to develop the state of the art and detection to find the poison chemicals that the cloud comes over and protection, meaning to develop safe facilities or safe systems that people can work with. That's what we are currently doing.

Jerry: I have to tell you that a chill just went up my spine when you were talking about that because it's something that I guest think about on a daily basis and when a low person like me hears that, it's a freighting process.

Don: It is a real threat for our soldiers and its a real threat for terrorist too who can bring into a train station with nothing but a brief case and kill thousands of people.

Jerry: Absolutely! And I think with the recent conflicts in the Middle East, I think that's been a real threat as well.

Don: Now lets see, where am I. So I talked about my career at Libra Scope. I haven't told you too much about what we built, although we built weapon systems for submarines.

Jerry: Are most of those submarines nuclear power?

Don: Yes, now the nuclear power boats came in about 1965, prior to that, we built systems for the diesel boats. I got to tell you a story about the last diesel boat that was built and produced happens to carry a hull of a nuclear boat that was for testing the boats capabilities in the water but inside its still _____ diesel. That boat was recently given to the Oregon's Museum of Science and Industry where it is parked along aside the dock next to the museum. The museum happens to be in the harbor there and Portland, Oregon. Its interesting to for me--my son took me there and having no idea I find a piece of equipment that I had designed. And he didn't know either but we went on that submarine and went into the area where they do all of the control on the far end of the weapons, sure enough there was a torpedo control console that I had designed. I was mechanical engineer; of course I did all the mechanical engineering and designed of it in 1964. And there it was all lit up and ready to go. Of course in the old days you couldn't even talk about it let a lone show somebody something like that. But today, its long since gone by and now in museums, which is fun to see.

Jerry: You were responsible for a piece of history.

Don: Yes. I really am proud of that.

Jerry: Are there patents that are involved here?

Don: There are several patents that associate with some of the inner working of the equipment that are in place. And some _____ through the years we developed different versions of systems as the computers came on board, became available. We were able to convert from mechanical mechanism in the '60s to all electronic and eventually all digital and miniaturizations of things and so on up to the last few years, we had the state of the art in weapon fire control including _____ missals, cruise missals, mark 48 weapons, which is a torpedo. Libra Scope didn't only worked in the submarine business, they also did a lot night vision cameras, we had an optical division back in New York, excuse me, Washington which we moved out there. I was responsible for them, the interface for all the mechanical engineering and design for their optic cameras, their optic systems, night vision cameras and viewing scopes. We established in the early '70s an optic facility at Glendale. And we started to get into army work, building computer terminals and radio interface equipment and for computers for battlefield weapon control. It seems most things were associated with weapons. And we had had and still have a good business relationship with the Army and Marines.

Jerry: Was there much business with the Air Force as well.

Don: I can only recall one program back in the '50s and early '60s that I worked on. I think there might have been a few others, but mostly dominated by U.S. Navy and Army.

Jerry: Really one of the reason I asked Don is because Libra Scope is so close to the old Grand Central Air Terminal and as you know there were 238s built there and pilots were trained there as well as _____ mechanics and I was just wondering if you had an association with that?

Don: Other than we build a building on the end of the runway after it was closed.

Jerry: Okay.

Don: No real association with the Air Force other than Libra Scope during its hay day in the late '50s and early '60s when we went up to like 4,000 people. We had buildings all over Glendale and the Grand Central area. I got layout of that whole area of Glendale I can show you too. And one of our buildings was the actual tower building at the airport now. The one that's in the pictures that you see around. Its still there, as a matter of fact, the building is still there. That I worked in for about two years. That was probably 1959-1961, something like that. So we worked in the facilities but we never..... By that time the airport had closed. I think the airport had closed for air traffic somewhere around the late '50s and was used for, believe it or not, there were road-racing events there. The City of Glendale associated with road racing people at the time and allowed an event there. It was really exciting for all the people. I don't think they had too many there. It might have been a noise problem, whatever. And then that was closed off all together and then it was sold off and buildings were built and the only thing left was the tower building by itself.

Jerry: Are there changes; did you ever much of an association with government in Glendale through your years with Libra Scope as an adult? Were there many c_____ activities that you participated in?

Don: Myself, personally, no. I know that the executives at Libra Scope participated a lot with the City of Glendale. My association with government in the City of Glendale began probably at in the late '70s, early '80s as a homeowner in Glendale, I own a home now up in Montecito Park and I was part of a group, I was a part of the association, as a matter of fact, I was the director and I was on a committee to review the prospects the use of the debris basin and subsequent to years to my coming on board the committee's head, not to far with the City of Glendale as to what the people wanted to have in that area. So as a voice to City Council, we organized ourselves, we got patricians; we did an analysis of what people wanted the debris basin to become. There were projects like housing project, HUD projects. There was a chiropractic college plan to be there. What we kept coming to City Council was what the people wanted was a park. So we just kept putting park in front of their faces, park in front of their face. I remember in the early '80s, I guess by this time I was responsible for the committee that we wanted to make very visible so we got ourselves an easel and we designed the park, I mean we just amateurs, but we had a young architect, now is quite a prominent architect in San

Francisco, his name is Jim McClaughlin and as a young high school student, he helped me design a park. We went down presented it to City Council but what we didn't know at the time that the Parks and Recreation people were also designing there own park and they presented there park and it was overwhelming I think the City Council and it was unanimous that that night they voted and we were promised a park. It took several years to finally get the Montrose Park but it was a lot of work that went into that. That was my first association with government. Since that time...

Jerry: I know you said the time was good, but you feel that the City Council at that time was really responsive to residents?

Don: Yes, very, Yes. Larry Zarian, he really listened to us. He would come to our block parties, talk to the people. He was very open-minded about it. Larry stands out in my mind. I honesty can't remember too many other council members from the early '80s.

Jerry: Do you think to the present day, do you think the City Council still responsive to the resident's desires?

Don: I'm very pleased with the process. I think that the current ability to view on television makes it even more interesting and also gets more people participated. There're many, many more people that come to City Council meetings. I remember back in the late '70s, early '80s, when they were in the afternoon, or a special meeting in the evening, if they had a special meeting, you probably couldn't fill all the seats, but now of course you do and I think there were 10 times, a 100 times harder than it was. I think that there're a lot of issues that are tuff to handle. I know the airport issue currently is very tuff to handle. In my own area, we were divided over the skate park to be incorporated into Montrose Park. I personally happen to be for it and did a lot of work with Nello Iacono in going to there meetings and presenting it to the board and to the people. It seemed like that they didn't really listen until it got right down to where it was time. And then all of a sudden there were people from the Montrose as well as my own area of Montecito Park got together and really decided that they didn't want it and they were a very large number of people and I think due to efforts, they are the ones convinced City Council to take a new look at it. Of course it's been a City Council change and that's what, I think, that prompted that; a lot of support from the new council people to take another look at this skate facility. I do definitely hope that Glendale will build skate facilities for our young people. There is definitely a need here in Glendale.

Jerry: Don, excuse me, just for one minute I'm going to change the tapes so we have plenty left. It sounds like you been particularly interested in recreation facilities, at least in the last few years. Is that true?

Don: I think that I really believe in recreation facilities. I support Parks programs. I've gone to several times to City Council, spoke up for the needs for more ball diamonds and more park space, so there was no doubt that I believe in parks and open space for people and I do notice Glendale is right now currently a little under balanced or off balanced with the amount of park space. We need more park space. Yes I do support recreation

for people of all ages. I have a point I like to bring out about my brother, if it's appropriate?

Jerry: Absolutely. Its definitely is.

Don: During the '60s, there was a company in Glendale called Mitchell Camera. I don't know if you recall the day.

Jerry: I do recall it, but I have heard the name. I heard other people in the department talking about it.

Don: During the '50s, then in the '60s, the Mitchell Camera became the most sought after motion picture camera for the Hollywood movie industry. And my brother in the early '60s got hired by the Mitchell Camera Company and was soon promoted to their president and ran the company here in Glendale for a good number of years in mid '60s. I'm real proud of that and as a matter of fact, he won an accepting Oscar for the Mitchell Camera Corporation at one of the Oscars for technology.

Jerry: Oh my gosh, I am very impressed.

Don: I'm very proud of my brother. So he has a little bit here in Glendale. He doesn't live in Glendale, he lives in Arcadia, but he certainly was raised here and contributed a lot to businesses. He was a member of the Verdugo Club and I remember I was hurt about that, it was when they were over on Central Avenue, of course I was young engineer, well that's where all the executives went, even the president of Libra Scope would eat lunch at the Verdugo Club and boy, some day, wouldn't that be nice, if. And I remember my brother invited my dad and I to go to lunch. That was very special. That was probably '66, '67, or '68, something like that.

Jerry: Your dad must have been very, very proud of both of you.

Don: Oh yes--dressed up in my suit. My sister....Oh, I told you about my dad being a private detective in the Alex Theatre. I guess maybe my dad got the job because my sister was an usher. And maybe talk to the man in charge, I had his name on the tip of my tongue. I can't remember his name, but it was always an experience to go to the Alex Theatre back in those days because the ushers would have these beautiful satin bell-bottomed uniforms and little caps and there were really first class looking. The outfits for the ushers and the ticket takers and the managers were all dressed in tuxedoes and things.

Jerry: I remember those days.

Don: Even just to go to the Theatre, it was really first class.

Jerry: And they would probably walk you to your seat with a flashlight, as well?

Don: Yes and I'm very proud to be a dues paying member of the Alex Theatre Association.

Jerry: I'm glad to hear that. I have some involvement with the Rehab___ Theatre also, because I think you may know that this Oral History Program is only one of my duties with the Planning Division. My primary responsibilities are historic preservations. So that was one of the first project that I worked on starting with the City.

Don: Yes. Andrea Humber told me that you were apart of that. Anyway, I've been very active this last year and an half. I always known about it, but now we go to all the events that they put on. We just went to Singing in the Rain, which was marvelous last weekend. I'm so pleased with the preservation of the Alex and that type of thing really means a lot to me. I wish we could go back and preserve Glendale High School, but we can't.

Jerry: I know that I am fortunately on the.... for me, in the middle '60s, I know that the high school that I went in West Los Angeles was, most of it, was torn down. First seismic retrofit purposes, in fact it wasn't really retrofit. They rebuilt the school and it was a colonial-style architecture and now is kind of what, I guess Prince Charles in England calls _____architecture. So it's a pretty much of a windowless building. And I know exactly what you're talking about. It would be nice to go back knowing what technology there is now.

Don: And we could have save that. Nice to see this still happens. I like to tell you a little bit about my homes in Glendale.

Jerry: Please.

Don: After I got out of the Navy and I started working at Libra Scope and after I worked for about a year, I was able to save enough for a down payment on our first home and my wife and I she was my high school sweet heart at the time. We got married after, as a matter of fact, I got married the last year I was in the Navy, started our family there. My first son was born in the Navy.

Jerry: What is your wife's name?

Don: My wife's than, at that time name was Barbara Tender, her maiden name. We were married while I was in the Navy and then in a year later, after I got out of the Navy, I worked Libra Scope. We saved enough money to buy our first home and it was located at 310 Stocker Street. A little home there, still there as a matter of fact, a nice little home. There we had two additional sons. My first son's name Steven Guy and my next two sons Dan Allen and Mark David. Dan and Mark were born while we were living at 310 Stocker. It was a small home so we pretty much grew out of that so we went looking for a bigger home and our second home we found in the Sparr Heights are, that's near Montrose, 3544 Sierra Vista. This is an interesting piece of Glendale history a lot of people don't realize that that home is still standing there today was originally a rock home, very interesting home. Most of the walls are like two to three feet thick.

Jerry: Built of stone?

Don: Built of stone. And it was originally an orange cold storage building. In fact the orange groves there in the early '20s, that area was all orange groves. And subsequently added on to it in the early '20s and '30s and if you go look at that house today, and you start from left-hand side and come over to the right-hand side, you can see how it was originally at the left-hand side is square-rectangle building and then added on to, and then added on to and then gone up to a second story. It's really well done. I personally would like to re-buy the home and restore it. I drive by it all the time and cause its a beautiful, beautiful home. Anyway, that was a second home. Then there was a divorce, unfortunately as so many people we were to young to know each other's true destiny in life and we were married 10 years, had three wonderful children, but at this time we had to each find new direction. I went off on my own life. I bought a small home at 4323 Lauderdale, Glendale portion of La Crescenta and put my craftsmanship together with a friend of mine named Dick Sma_____, high school buddy, helped me build a garage along with a carpenter man, who we hired to stuff we couldn't do. We built a poolroom and made a nice place for me and also for my sons to live with me part time and raise my sons. Well after a few years, I married again in 1968. I'm still married to my current wife whose name is Pat and we bought our home which we are currently in at Sparr, on Sparr Boulevard, at 3030 Sparr Boulevard. We've been now 30 or 31 years and that's, I told you little bit about Montecito Park. I've been there quite a long time.

Jerry: Don, I have a question of you. I know that it seems like you live on the same block or very close to one of designated historic resources in Glendale, its known as the Walter's House. It's a 3,000 square foot....

Don: My neighbor.

Jerry: Can you tell me a little about that house over the 30 or so years that you've lived in the neighborhood?

Don: Oh boy, yes can I ever! And thank goodness for the new owner that has it, Mike De B_____, his lovely wife and three children are great neighbors but before they moved and they bought it, there was a man in there called Ted Michaels. He's like ABCDEF, I don't how much the movie Grace go, but he's down to some lower alphabet code there. He made DE-class h_____ movies there and for years it was just very difficult experience to live next store to a haunted house, a movie set, the Hollywood want-a-bees that would come and go, the parties that were there, the noise, they had no respect for the neighbors whatsoever.

Jerry: Forgive me if you're smiling Don, but I feel for what you went through. I suppose in retrospect that with some time and those things from it, that it sounds interesting.

Don: Oh, it was very interesting. It was the talk of the town and talk of the neighborhood. They were difficult for us simply because I worked for long hours and I come home and I will be woken up because of the fact that the lights were on and movies were going and they were yelling and talking loud and I just couldn't get sleep. It was terrible. It was very difficult and he, more he, Mr. Michaels didn't really care that much about the house,

rather it got rundown; I don't believe that his movie business was that all profitable and I believe towards... He must have been there 10 or 15 years and towards the end, I think he couldn't afford it any longer. The banks took it over and all the property was quite a large piece of property there, all the way from the front of where the Montecito Park marker sign is, all the way around to the road that back there, I forget the name of that road there, but off of Bayberry is owned property and there's probably 4 or 5 lots in which the castle itself, we call it the Castle, just kind of an infection ate name for it, because it is castle-like looking structure. It got rather rundown. When Mike bought it, he started restoring it a little bit at a time and done a marvelous job. He's almost through. He's got the grounds yet to do and once that's done, it's an outstanding structure, and yes you're right, in fact I did some research in our area. If it's not the first house, it's like the second house that was built in the Montecito Park area.

Jerry: You were, I interrupted you and I apologize.

Don: No, I think that's.... I was going talk about a little restoration project of my own. We had one other house associated with the Tubbs family now. It's a little wood frame home on Mills Avenue, 3135 Mills. My wife inherited this small little house from her brother whom passed away, unfortunately, he was a Vietnam War veteran, also another Glendale person who any combination of war-Vietnam, Agent Orange, whatever you call smoking, he got cancer in the throat and died. Unfortunately with his little home that he had there in La Crescenta, willed it to my wife and we, this is 1992, and so we took a couple of years and try to decide what to do with it, such a cute little building and I started realizing it was built in 1923. It's got to be one of the oldest up there, up there in the area. So we saved it. I restored most of it and had to put in new piping and things like that, but I restored the outside. It just a small little 700 square foot little wood frame cottage-type house that was built originally for retreat for the people down in L.A. to retreat the woodsy mountains of all the La Crescenta. It's probably one of the only structures there at the time. I have not researched beyond knowing that it was tax record _____.

Jerry: 1923. Wow!

Don: We currently own that.

Jerry: You kind of spark my memory, Don, because you've been associated with a couple of houses at least up that area. And a house that you talked that you owned that was the closed-storage for oranges made out of stone. There were a number of stone houses up in the La Crescenta, Montrose area. In fact, the City has done a survey of them and there are few on Honolulu and the streets near by. And you mentioned that your brother-in-law's cottage was originally probably a retreat for people in L.A. and I know that some of those very small stones houses up in the Montrose area were hunting retreats. And that house that you were in sounds far bigger than any of those because those are, generally, very tiny houses. Just a fact for you as well, perhaps that wooden structure that your brother-in-law that you've been restoring, was a similar kind of....

- Don: It could have been. I remember, in fact once in a while you see pictures of the La Crescenta, Montrose area that was published at different events and things. And I always try to find out what that area look like. It was very woodsy, lots of trees, like of oaks, and streams and things like that before it got improved by the streets back in the '20s.
- Jerry: I guess we use the term improvement sometimes loosely and when we consider the environmental effects that development has had on this are and what you described in a series that you told me, there been quite a few changes.
- Don: Yes, definitely. You said you're involved in Historic Preservation, does that go beyond like big structures like the Alex? You also look for those homes that have some history to it that are in Glendale.
- Jerry: Absolutely, and there are 39 structures that are designated in the Glendale Register of Historic Researches and those range from every thing from the three Trust Bridges to the end _____ the Trust Bridges at the Verdugo Wash to the Alex Theatre, to the Railroad Depot, to several project homes, for instance, the Doby House in Chevy Chase Canyon that was designed by R_____ and the Walter's house in your neighborhood, Sparr Boulevard, and including the Taylor's house which is at 1027 Glenwood Road, approximately five or six blocks west of Verdugo High School. And that was originally a farmhouse that was located on Pacific and Glenwood and moved in the '20s to its current location. And it was originally built in 1870. So there's a whole range.
- Don: That's pretty interesting. I have a lot interest in that sort of thing. I like to hear about what maybe a house was used for. And it might today, there's one on a little street off of Glorietta, I think its called Artistic Lane or it's right off of Glorietta, next to Glorietta Park. Its a small little lane next that wonders through in a really narrow little street, tiny houses. There is a City water pump building there and these houses are very narrow off. And one day I was walking down there and I started looking at the perspective scale of these houses and I saying there're not fore scale and happen to be a little while, weeks later, I don't remember, I happen to be walking and there was this lady that was out front and we starting talking about the houses and she told me she'd lived there since the '30s and prior to living there in the '30s, excuse me.... She lived there since the late '30s. Her husband had passed away and she started telling about these little cottages that were on this little street off of Glorietta, called, I think its called Artistic Way or Street or something like that, were purposely built for retreats for the Hollywood Stars, but they were all small and literally, she took me inside and I'm six foot, two, normally I don't have to duck under a normal door, I had to duck under every door and everything, several of the houses on that street were done that way purposely. There's still full-scale working, full two bedroom home, one bath, small little home, one car garage in the back, but everything is scaled down slightly. And she just started talking about these homes and I said I want to write all this down and certainly somebody should know all this and I always meant to go back and talk to her. Subsequently, she either sold the home or she was quite frail at that time. This was about 10 years ago

and I always said if that home ever comes for sale, I want to buy and restore that one. Of course that was before my brother-in-law's home.

Jerry: And those are still in existence?

Don: They're still there and I would love to learn about them.

Jerry: I think I'm going to enlist your help after this interview is over.

Don: I would love to find..... And she would say oh yeah, the Hollywood stars would show up, wonder through the woodlands and then this would be there retreat for the weekend, these little bungalows on that street.

Jerry: You know I think there is some history in association with the Hollywood community in its early years and Glendale because there was a film studio, I guess is what is now south of Glendale Avenue. There are some people who work here. I know that one of the Tudor Revival Style Apartment Buildings on South Central Avenue, one of the brick clinker--clinker brick style down there, there was some Hollywood stars that stayed there and I've heard stories that at one time it was a residential hotel. So there is somewhat of a history here of that. And even some stars grew up here or at least one star grew up here and that was John Wayne.

Don: Oh yes.

Jerry: Don, I know that you bought some notes to the interview. Is there anything else that you wanted to talk about?

Don: Well let me look through here. I think we covered pretty much of my history and my association with Glendale. Can I tell you a little about a personal interest as well as part of Glendale? Remember we were talking about the _____ Griswold and Maple Street. As a young man being raised at that neighborhood and this was prior to me getting my first car, but I think its probably what prompted my love for the hot rods, if you will, and I am even today 64, almost 65 years of age and still absolutely thrilled to deaf with Cruise Night and Kiwanis Car Show, hot rods, Bob's Big Boy, you name it. Anyway, as a young fellow, I think it was probably junior high school, at this time. My friends were twins, Ray and Fay Craig, they lived over on Verdugo Road, right around the corner from Maple, the intersection of Maple and Verdugo Road and their brother, Al Craig would take Model A Ford Roasters and hop them up and put big powerful flathead V8 motors in and race out at the El Mirage dry lake and it quite an experience during the week and in the evenings to go and visit my two friends Ray and Fay Craig and it would be beautiful hot rods parked in the driveway from clubs like the Side Wynders, the GCRC--that stands for Glendale Coupes and Roasters Club and this was now back in the late '40s and, of course, as the big kids would come out sometimes take a liking to the young kids. They would offer to take us out to the races with them, if you would get a note from your mom or something like that. So we got to go out and wipe the tires and hand them the wrenches so that was quite of an experience for me as a young fellow.

Jerry: It sounds like a form of a learning experience.

Don: It was definitely. I started my love for the cars as well as working, starting to work on them. Of course at that age I didn't know one end of the wrench from another but went on to have quite a love for tools and cars and especially things like associated with Glendale. The Glendale Coupes and Roaster Club, I don't think there are still around but the history associated with the club is still around in different events and that was quite a fun thing. My friend, Warren Timpson, he was born and raised here in Glendale. In fact he had a Shell station here, one of the prominent Shell stations in Glendale for 30-somehow years. When we were youngsters, when I got out of the Navy, we gone off to school together, we kind of like the cars together, he also new Ray and Fay Craig and their brother. Warren and I built up a 1934 Ford Coupe with a flathead-ford motor with 3's by 3's, we called it and three carburetors running a _____ and we went out to the El Mirage Dry Lakes and ran our own hotrods and we did that from about 1957 through 1959, we put a car together and ran out there. And of course our careers took over and our families took over. I always sworn up and down I build another hotrod so this year when I retire, that's what I'm doing. I'm going to build myself a couple more hotrods.

Jerry: I'm impressed. I would love for you to give me call so I can see that also.

Don: I'll do that. I think that. I think we're going to keep..... One other point, I know we're getting on here, but I got to tell you another thing about Glendale and to this day, it's still important to me. My girlfriend in high school, my first wife, my high school sweetheart, as I refer to her, Barbara. I remember one time, her dad, we just met, the family was just introduced to her new boyfriend, this about 1950, 51. I had my new Ford Victoria. He took me out to dinner, Barbara and myself and mom, Mrs. Nona Tender and we went to Damon's on Central and to this day, I still go to Damon's. It's still the same, it's still my favorite steak house and I ask my current my wife some years later, 1968, if she'll be my wife at Damon's Steak House.

Jerry: Oh my gosh! Oh my gosh! That's probably the most wonderful story that you've told me. That is great. Does the ownership of Damon's, now that this has been a tradition with you. How interesting. Don I know we'd talk for quite a while and you have made this interview probably the easiest one that I have ever done out of maybe 30 years now. There's one question that I generally close the interview with and I don't mean to put you on the spot. I know some people feel what it's like. But if there is one word or short phrase that you could use to describe Glendale, what would that be?

Don: It's my city!

Jerry: That's fine. You know something, I'm not sure that needs any elaboration.

Don: Born and raised here, I love it; I even love the new ethnic diversity. I was apart of the Glendale Human Relation Coalition on July 4 get together. My friend Gene Mistel ran that and I believe everything that Glendale is doing is going to turn into a better city and

a better community. I do believe strongly to preserve our hillsides. I am to stay colder, I work with Mr. Bobardt with different issues, _____ someone situation and I'd made it very clear to Nello and the importance of open space and he knows I am a supporter in that and...

Jerry: When you mention Nello, you mean Nello Iacono, the director of Parks and Recreation?

Don: Yes, I'm sorry, yes I do. And so I would just end with that. It's my city and I love it and I love the open space.

Jerry: Don, on the behalf of the city, let me thank you once again for participating in this interview. I think this something particularly this interview, would be a great piece for people to listen to through the years. And I hope they choose to do that. You told some stories that really set the tone for several years, several decades of Glendale's history and I thank you again on behalf of myself and the City.

Don: Thank you very much.