

## Dale Hume

Tape 2 of 2

**Question:** Was there something special you liked about the service or just glad to be out of it?

**Answer:** I don't know if there was any particular best time that I know of I guess one of the times one of the guys I knew in North Carolina lived up in New Jersey and I spent time with him. My first time in New York. We went into New York for a day. Of course we took the train up and spent the day and we didn't get to see an awful lot but just enough to know you'd been there.

**Question:** Did you travel in uniform?

**Answer:** Yeah. You had to in those days.

**Question:** Oh is that right?

**Answer:** Yeah. You couldn't get caught out of uniform.

**Question:** And how were you treated in uniform?

**Answer:** Oh great, great. Went to a matinee and of course at that time they had shows. You went to a movie and then they had shows between these movies and the one show was the Gene Crupa band which was kind of fun to see, but I don't remember anything else. I guess I enjoyed it down in Barstow with the little unit we had down there cause we could see what was going on downtown and they had a nice USO there. A gal I came kind of friendly with and one lady that made really good chocolate chip cookies. I called them Tollhouse Cookies. I always call them Toll bridge Cookies but I became pretty friendly with this little gal and whenever this gal the lady brought them in she'd save a dozen or so out for me when I got there. I met a couple other girl friends and it was kind of fun.

**Question:** That answers my next question, you and Madge weren't girl friend, boy friend at that time.

**Answer:** No, no, didn't know Madge until after the war. I just barely knew her my senior year in high school yeah. She was a song queen, one of the song princesses and of course I was the yell king in high school. And when I got back one time they had a rally, a student assembly, a pep rally for one of the games and the yell king at that time knew that I had been and asked me to come and lead some yells just to see if I could come and get people pepped up which I did. And it turned out that from then on at all the games I had to come down and lead a yell at some time or other. But I just had known Madge and she didn't pay much attention to me because I'm an old guy but when they had the centennial here I don't know if you remember that at all, but they had a parade and they had a dance out at the airport. And Ben Bean and I ended up one night being Keystone Cops because they had some guys that were Keystone Cops and they'd run around and put you in a cage that they had and then you know fine you to be able to get out of it so to help pay for the thing. Anyway Madge and a couple of her gals were out there, Ben and I went out there for the fun of it to look around so I danced with Madge and we danced a couple of times and she was going to the Seattle U at the time and I went back to Washington. And somewhere another I took her out for a date and it kind of evolved from there. She ended up going into the United Airline hostess, she was a stewardess, but only for 8 months and then we got married. I don't know if you're going to get her here on camera but one of the things that is interesting about her is that she was born in Canada and her mother passed away at childbirth and her aunt and uncle actually took her and brought her down here. And when the war came along they found she hadn't been signed in or anything and she was an illegal alien and they were thinking about sending

## Dale Hume

Tape 2 of 2

her back but I don't remember the ramifications of how they did this. They eventually adopted her and I think that's what squelched it but I guess for awhile they were afraid they were going to lose her and send her back up to another aunt in Vancouver but that never happened. But she was actually raised by an aunt and uncle.

**Question:** That's pretty funny, that terrible threat in the north, Canada, you know. Oh no.

**Answer:** Yeah, well, they didn't think about it I think because her dad was born in Canada, well both her mother and father were born in Canada but they moved down here and became United States citizens, I mean her aunt and uncle.

**Question:** So when you got out of the service did you go right back to college?

**Answer:** Yeah.

**Question:** Did you use the GI Bill or did you just?

**Answer:** Yeah, GI Bill, they managed to let me in but I had a strain doing it because here again just letting it go my freshman year, my transcript that first quarter, low warned, the second quarter was low, on probation, the third quarter transcript was low, drop. So I wouldn't be able to go back but I convinced them after I helped win the war for them that they ought to let me go back to school which they did. So yeah, I'd go to school for a bit and then worked at the brewery about three different times. One time for about eighteen months, and I finally got a degree and Madge and I got married and that's when we moved to California on our honeymoon and was going to go down to UCLA/NBC radio institute. Wanted to be a sports announcer and come back to Seattle and set the world on fire but it never happened. We ended up staying down there for eight years.

**Question:** So when you went back I assume there were a lot of people on the GI Bill at that time.

**Answer:** Yeah.

**Question:** Yeah. That was a pretty good deal.

**Answer:** Oh yeah. Heck I had it really, made but earning the money I did at the brewery and then the GI and then I still belonged to the fraternity house and I did noon dishes and silverware and glasses which paid for my room. So I and I saved enough money for gas and beer so what else do you need?

**Question:** You were in heaven at that point, a little extra spending money. Wow. You know the history books make it sound like prewar and post war there was just an amazing different attitude just because things were growing and moving. Is that how you perceived it? I mean going back and all of a sudden America was strong again or as a 19-20 year old did you have that perspective?

**Answer:** Oh here again, you ask about the experience of the army and the service I think so many of us that did go back and went back and had been in the service and lived in the fraternity house now were older. Not only in age but in ways of life and things that we knew more of a dedication you know. Several of the guys had become officers, quite high officers in the navy and marines you know. So and they had their dedication of how they wanted to finish their schooling and of course quite a few close friends of mine went through the navy training thing in college so they pretty much gotten a lot of their degrees or closer to their

## Dale Hume

Tape 2 of 2

degrees from that. But and so here again I think yeah there was more a sense of purpose that we may not have had.

**Question:** You don't know a difference? You can't look at it both ways but I think you're right. I just think you're right, a different meaning and purpose.

**Answer:** Yeah.

**Question:** Changes your life. You now realize you're more than when at nineteen you don't realize that you can do whatever.

**Answer:** Well, I think I realized more because I was never an awful good student but I realized more and more from that I would be able to get farther in life if I had a college degree whether it made me any smarter I don't know. I know in a lot of cases I was as smart as guys who were really book worms and studied awfully hard and that's all they did and doesn't make them overall smart or have the ability to do the things that you think you're good at and I ended up doing things that I thought I was good at. At least during my eight years with NBC television.

**Question:** Applied intelligence I like to call it. You can be as smart as you want but if you can't figure out how to use it in the real world.

**Answer:** The guy sitting next to me in class may have been a book worm and he may have gotten A plus on whatever he is doing and I got a C or C plus or B minus doesn't mean he is going to get farther in life than I was because I had different kinds of smarts than he did maybe and I think that's true of a lot of people.

**Question:** Did you lose any friends in the war?

**Answer:** Yeah, but we had a couple of friends that didn't come back that Jack and I went into the service with, yeah. From Olympia here, one of the names was Wickstram, I don't remember the first name and then another was Dick Phillips, the Phillips boy, they didn't come back and of course a couple came back that were wounded like Frank Baker. Frank lost his leg stepping on a land mine and there was a couple others I ran into from time to time that had been wounded you know but a little more serious than I was. I was really lucky as far as I lost part of the use of my right hand but it hasn't bothered me too much. It bothered me playing basketball which was too bad because I really liked playing basketball.

**Question:** When you went back to the U did you play more basketball or?

**Answer:** Well, getting back to the freshman year there was another guy that was all state from Bremerton and myself ended up in the first quarter being starting guards on the freshman team and we had a good freshman team and we challenged the varsity a couple of times and kept up with them. A couple of these guys ended up playing later on. His name was Les Ethorn and he and I sat next to each other in a medieval history course. How I ever got talked into taking that course I don't know. Neither one of us knew Charles the second from King Arthur the fourth, and this little old lady must have been eighty years old who was a teacher. And everything in her mind she knew and she thought because she knew it and if you read a chapter in the book and the chapter is confusing unless you get down and study it and memorize it. You know you're not going to pass a test she gives so we both flunked it and that meant that we both couldn't play basketball the rest of the year so that was really kind of disappointing so yeah when I came back I turned out for basketball again in fact the reason I did as long as we're talking of basketball, Eddie Camarano Who had Camarano

## Dale Hume

Tape 2 of 2

Distributing sponsored a team of local guys after the war that played together in high school and we had a good team. We only lost three games that year and we played in Little League of Aberdeen, Centralia, Shelton and we ended up going to the regional AA meet up in Seattle which was the stepping stone to what they called in those days the Phillips Oilers sponsored a team and what we lost two games to the Alpine Dairy who had ex-university of Washington stars on it but they didn't beat us by much. The other games we lost to the University of Washington freshmen who came down and we put on a little demonstration a fund raiser at the high school and these guys ran our butts off I tell you. They were too young and we couldn't keep up with them at all so there were only three games that we lost that year was kind of fun and during that time when we played in the AA U game I had a pretty good (inaudible) even though I couldn't shoot very well anymore because my hand wouldn't go back and I didn't have all my fingers. He called down one time and wanted to know if I was going to come back to school. He's like me to come back and I did. I was playing with the JV's pretty good until they discovered my grades weren't good enough because I hadn't caught those up good enough. So I didn't get to, but I did play on a semi-pro team up there which was sponsored by the guy who owns Pacific Trail Coat and Hat Company. Neat guy. And there was enough of us castoffs from the University we played and we played Seattle University when the two O'Brien kids were just starting out, twins, so. I like to brag about that a little bit. Don't put all this on the air for God's sakes, but these two O'Brien kids, Johnny O'Brien was really the kid who started the jump shot. He would dribble one way and go in the air and shoot while he was in the air and there weren't many kids doing that. And he and his brother were pretty good little players but he was a better shot than Eddie, a little better ball player and he was just eating us up and so our coach named Sammy White was an all American for the University, he ended up being catcher for the Boston Red Socks for years. Heck of a ballplayer. He was our coach. And he says Dale go in there and see if you can't shut him down a little bit so I did and that was all I was thinking about and I'd been watching him enough to know that he most of the time would only go one way, he'd fake left and he'd go to the right and go in the air to the right and shoot and so I just started hounded him on that and anticipated him when he was going to fake and when he was going to go and when he put the ball on the floor I'd reach out and pull it away from him. Well the second half came out and I'm still checking him and he isn't doing anything but his brother Eddie is making all the baskets all of a sudden. Well, they'd changed uniforms at half time and I wasn't checking Johnny I was checking Eddie, you couldn't tell them apart, anyway.

**Question:** Well thank you very much.