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# An Interview with Judge Jack Lehman

An Oral History Conducted by Claytee D. White

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The Boyer Early Las Vegas Oral History Project

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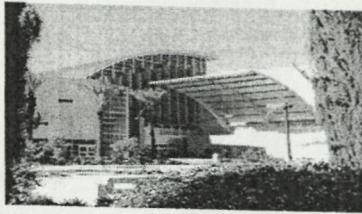
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The transcript received minimal editing that includes the elimination of fragments, false starts, and repetitions in order to enhance the reader's understanding of the material. All measures have been taken to preserve the style and language of the narrator. In several cases, photographic sources (housed separately) accompany the collection as slides or black and white photographs.

The following interview is part of a series of interviews conducted under the auspices of the Boyer Early Las Vegas Oral History Project. Additional transcripts may be found under that series title.

Claytee D. White, Project Director  
Director, Oral History Research Center  
University Nevada, Las Vegas

## Preface

Judge Jack Lehman is living the life we should all strive for – a wonderful family, a work ethic that has allowed him to serve others while enjoying a magnificent life and above all a great love affair with his beautiful artistic wife, Lou Lou. From Chemnitz, Germany, at the beginning of the Nazi reign to a prominent citizen of Las Vegas, Lehman lives an extraordinary Las Vegas life.

Born in Germany in the late 1920s, Jack and his sister were sent to the United States in 1935 and after a series of living situations including a orphanage in New York, they were adopted by the Lehman family in Lake Arrowhead, California. As a young boy, he wanted to become a lawyer. After a degree from Berkeley, two tours of military duty, a stint in radio broadcasting, and serving as the Director of the Nevada Department of Economic Development, he entered law school at USC.

Lehman's career in the legal field began at the largest law firm in the city – Lionel Sawyer and Collins - and then into private practice and on to the bench as a District Court judge appointed by Governor Richard Bryan. In February 2008, he was honored by judges and friends statewide as the founder of Nevada's Adult Criminal Drug Court Program commonly known as "drug court." Washoe County District Judge Peter Breen said it best, "The state is a much better place because of Jack. All those people came back from the abyss of addiction because of Jack."

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**It is October 17th, 2007. And I'm with Mr. Jack Lehman this morning in his home in Las Vegas.**

**How are you doing today?**

I'm doing fine. Thank you.

**Good. And could you spell your last name for my transcriber?**

Yes. L-e-h-m-a-n.

**Tell me where that name is from.**

I hate to say it, but it's my parents. I was born in Germany. But that was not my name when I was born. I was adopted by the Lehmans.

**Interesting. So where did you grow up?**

I grew up in Southern California at a place called Lake Arrowhead. And that's where the Lehmans were. They owned a restaurant and a gas station and a garage.

**Wow. Lake Arrowhead is that place we all want to go to.**

It's a lovely place.

**So tell me about growing up in Lake Arrowhead.**

Well, it's in the mountains, San Bernardino Mountains. The elevation's about 5200 feet. So we were just about a mile high. And the only drawback to being up there is I would have to take a school bus to San Bernardino every day to go to school once I got into junior high school. So it was a daily trip up and down the mountain 17 miles. And that was kind of interesting. The kids would generally raise hell and I used to be one of them.

**Did you grow up working in the restaurant and the family businesses?**

I ran the gas station and the garage because it was right during the beginning of World War II. And it was very difficult to get anybody to do that. At first I worked with a mechanic, but he left for better climes and so forth. So I just ran the gas station and a garage until I graduated from high school.

**Did you actually fix cars?**

I actually fixed cars, changed tires and so forth and so on.

**Oh, that's great. A great place to grow up and you grew up working.**

Yeah.

**So when you left there to go to school, where did you decide to go?**

Well, I decided to go to Berkeley and that was because my sister was there. And she's two and a half years older than me and kind of became my mother when we were sent over here to the United States from Germany. Being Jewish obviously -- my mother died of cancer when I was four. My father had heart problems and diabetes and was not healthy. And he had a sister that lived in Los Angeles. And so he wanted to send us to Los Angeles to be raised in the United States.

**Did he realize that Germany was changing when he sent you here?**

Enormously obviously. He had been in jail on two separate occasions. They usually released him because he was so sick. So he sent the two of us to the United States. We didn't realize until about a couple of years ago that he died the week after we left Germany. So that was in our file. My sister is a psychiatric social worker, as is my daughter. So I'm surrounded by it. And her husband is a psychiatrist. And so I'm surrounded by psychological people.

**Through research you were able to find that out. Do you think he maybe knew he was dying?**

Oh, yeah. I think he did definitely. He was a sick man. The thing was we were being raised by my grandmother, anyway. And my grandmother was not Jewish. My mother was not Jewish, but she converted when she married my father. And, in fact, she kept a kosher house. So she took the religion very seriously. And that was how I got started and came to the United States.

**How old were you when you came to the United States?**

I was seven and my sister was nine and a half.

**So you remember some of that?**

Oh, yeah.

**Tell me about those memories of coming to the United States, you and your sister.**

Well, first of all, I realized that something pretty bad was going on in Germany. There were, you know, a lot of young men in uniform. And periodically -- I only went to a parade once because on that occasion several of the Nazis broke from the ranks and saw some people who were Jewish who were identified by the fact that they wore a yellow Star of David on their clothing. And they would beat the hell out of them. So, you know, it obviously frightened me quite a bit. Although I

started school over there -- I went through the first grade over there.

**Did children have to wear the star, as well?**

No.

**And let me know when I'm getting too personal.**

No. It's all right.

**Okay, good. When you were sent here, did the people here know why you were being sent?**

Well, first of all, we came over with a group of 19 young people who were all being sent to the United States to get out of Germany. So that was an organization. I don't know the name of the organization, but my sister did. Matter of fact, she got access to our records. But my sister matured very quickly and she really was the mother figure in my life. And that continues to this day, kind of.

**That's great. So now, how would you contrast where you lived in Germany to moving to Lake Arrowhead? What was that like, the difference?**

Oh, obviously -- the German city, which was called Chemnitz, C-h-e-m-n-i-t-z, is in southern Germany. And that was really where the Nazi Party got its impetus. And so things were turning very bad in our region long before or sometime before the rest of Germany became as militaristic and as outrageous as it became.

My grandmother as I say was not Jewish. So she was not harassed at all. And she really raised my sister and I for a good part of the time. My father was a salesman and he would travel to sell things. I don't recall what it was. So our grandmother was really my mother figure until we left Germany.

**Oh, this is so interesting. Were you part of the Spielberg's oral history project?**

No.

**So have you been interviewed about this already?**

No.

**Oh, okay. That's interesting. And it sounds like your sister would also -- there are organizations within the Jewish community that would probably want to interview your sister, as well.**

Possibly. She's a psychiatric social worker.

**They probably would want to interview her.**

**So you grew up in Lake Arrowhead. Went away to college at Berkeley?**

Yes.

**And how was that? What was that like?**

Oh, it was wonderful. I loved Berkeley. However, I was 17 when I graduated from high school. So I only had a short time to go. The selective service, which was the draft, notified me after I had managed to get two semesters in, one a summer session and the other was a regular semester, that I should not start another session because I was going to be called into the service. I was going to be drafted.

**Now, which year are we talking about now?**

I graduated from high school in 1945. And we're talking about 1945, 1946.

**So as the war is ending?**

The war had ended, as a matter of fact.

**So were you surprised by that, that they were calling you up?**

No, not at all. I mean we talked about it in school a lot because it was happening to all the men. In those days they obviously weren't drafting -- I don't know if today they're drafting women, but they certainly weren't then.

**Not at that point. So you were drafted?**

I was not. I waited around for a couple of weeks and got tired of waiting. And so I enlisted for 18 months.

**Oh, you enlisted. In the army?**

Yes.

**And why only 18 months?**

Because that was the shortest period I could get away with getting into the army.

**And how was that experience? Did you have to leave the United States?**

Not at all. Not on that occasion. That was the first time I went into the service. I went to Little Rock, Arkansas, for basic training. And that was kind of a shock because I had never been exposed to --

**(Indiscernible).**

-- segregation. And I just didn't understand it to tell you the truth. Obviously, we had been, well, made to feel inferior in Germany. And so I could empathize with people in that situation. But it was a very hard situation for me to be in, in that sense because although I was -- you know, I'm not obviously Jewish. And so I would hear a lot of anti-semantic remarks. But I was not persecuted in any way because of the fact that I was Jewish.

**So you got to see Little Rock firsthand.**

Firsthand. Well, first of all, of course, they don't give you a pass until you've been there about six weeks. So I did get into Little Rock. I would normally when I got on a streetcar or a bus go to the back because that was just where I preferred to sit. And so I got on the bus in Little Rock and went to the back. And they stopped the bus and told me I'd have to move to the front. And I said why? And they said that's reserved for colored people. I said if they don't mind, I don't mind. So they wouldn't move the bus until I moved. So I moved up front. And that was the first head-on clash I had with regard to segregation.

**Wow. You could have been the first Rosa Parks.**

**Tell me about citizenship. Coming here at seven how did you become a citizen?**

Through my parents, my adoptive parents. First of all, we lived with a family in Los Angeles. And they were very nice people. They were Jewish because the organization was a Jewish organization. And they had two children, a boy and a girl. And there, too, the girl was older than the boy. So we were kind of raised as part of their family. You know, the family just got four children. We lived with them for approximately two years. And at that time they were going to take a summer trip around the United States. And I think they felt that it was time that we went someplace else.

So we went to stay with my aunt first. We later learned that my aunt wouldn't take us when we got to the United States. And that would have killed my father anyway because she was supposedly his favorite sister and he was one of I think 11 children. So that's how we managed to end up with the Lehmans up in Arrowhead. And they adopted us. When they adopted us I became a citizen.

**Now, why L.A. [Los Angeles]? Why were you sent to L.A.?**

Because my aunt was there. So the whole goal was to get me -- but, you know, it was funny. We

arrived in New York. And we were in an orphans' home there. And it was hard to figure out why we weren't being sent to our aunt in Los Angeles because we had been told by our father what a wonderful lady she was and that she had two boys and that we would be going into their family and she would raise us as hers and so forth. Of course, none of that happened because she did not want to take us, oh, unless the Jewish agency paid her. And so they couldn't. They had a rule that if you were going to a relative, they would not pay the relative. If you were going to a home such as we did for the two years that we lived in the place, they would pay a small amount of money to the family. And she felt she was entitled to that I guess. And so she didn't want to take us, which is frightening because, you know, my grandmother heard about this and she told them to send us back to Germany. You know, thank goodness they didn't do that.

**Yeah. So let's go on with Berkeley. So how did you decide on law school?**

I think I wanted to be a lawyer from the time I started school. First of all, I enjoyed school and I got good grades. In those days you didn't need the grades. I don't know if I could get into Berkeley now days. I know how tough it is, and any of the big schools. So I had decided early on I think that I wanted to be a lawyer because I had the feeling that a lawyer could protect himself from bad people and that it was a good profession and interesting. And I always enjoyed social sciences. So that's why I decided to become a lawyer. So I probably decided that at about age 12 or 13, something like that.

**Did you take any special classes along the way that you thought --**

You know, you really couldn't do that in high school. You were given a curriculum and you took it. And it was a generalized curriculum.

**Four years of school and then law school?**

Four years at Berkeley. I graduated and that was when I went into the service the first time and got to Little Rock and so forth. And from Little Rock I went to Fort Benning, Georgia.

My closest friend in the army had the notion that he really wanted to go through jump school, parachute school. And I wasn't too anxious to do that. It scared the hell of me just the thought of it, you know. He said, well, what we'll do is -- it's a six weeks' course, the jump school. And he said we'll go through five weeks and they'll really get us in good shape. And then once we're in good shape -- you could quit anytime you want in the paratroops. So we decided we'd go

through five weeks and in the sixth week we'd quit before we had to jump out of airplanes. Although in the fifth week they haul you up 250-foot towers and drop you with a parachute on. But that isn't quite as tough as running out of an airplane and hoping that the chute opens.

**Did you quit in the fifth week?**

No, we certainly didn't. You know, we were being paid \$50 a month in those days. And shortly after that it was raised to \$75. Actually, that was a lot more money than we would consider it today. But when we got to the sixth week -- we don't get any of the money -- you start getting jump pay the minute you -- which is an additional \$50 a month. So it was double the pay that I was making. But you don't get that until you graduate from jump school. Besides that by then, you know, we had acquired a certain amount of pride. You know, paratroopers think they're the greatest thing on earth and that they can beat any five guys that they have to if they have to. And they teach you how to fight and how to take care of yourself. So in that sense I kind of enjoyed it.

In the fifth week you learned to pack your own parachute because that's the one you're going to jump, the first one you're going to jump because you do five jumps in five days. So by the time we got to the sixth week, we said what the hell; let's just go ahead and this isn't so bad and we can stay in good shape and so forth. So we did.

I had a year to go by the time I finished jump school. So I just stayed at Fort Benning. I was assigned to a demonstration jumping outfit. They would take usually a company of men. And we would do a demonstration jump and show what we did when we hit the ground and how we got ready for combat and so forth and so on. So I did that for a year and then got out.

**What was it like jumping out of a plane that first time?**

You know, it's interesting. The easiest jump was the first because you don't know what the hell's happening. So you just kind of lose consciousness, but you're still moving. And you stand up in an airplane with about 36 other men, 18 sitting on each side of the plane. And they open the door. And there's the rush of air. And then they say go. And there are lights there -- the red for don't go, the yellow for get ready, and the green for go. And once they go, you're allowed three-quarters of a second in the doorway. Because if you don't get out in that period of time, the men on the end of what they call the stick -- they call one row of men a stick -- will end up off the drop zone and then they can get hurt. So you really get out of there fast.

And, you know, I don't remember a heck of a lot other than this great rush of air hitting me in the face. And I kept my eyes shut until the chute opened.

**The chute opens automatically?**

Yeah. Oh, yeah. The way the parachutes are packed there's what they call a static line, which is about, oh, I'd say 12 to 14 feet long. And that's laced back and forth in the chute. When you go out the force of going out pulls off the back of the chute and it just opens up by itself.

**Oh, I thought you had to pull a cord.**

Don't have to pull anything.

**Oh. Then it's not as bad as I thought.**

Well, that would take extra time for one thing. And we would jump normally at about 800 feet. So you had just a certain amount of time for that chute to open or you were going to be splattered all over the ground.

**Wow. So this is wonderful. What a great start.**

Well, you know, it gave me a tremendous amount of self-confidence. And you grow up pretty fast and you learn to associate with other people, all kinds of other people. So in that sense it was very interesting.

**Oh, I can imagine that.**

**So after that you then went to law school?**

Oh, a long time after that. I hadn't been to Berkeley yet except for two semesters. So when I got out I went back to -- let's see. I got out of the service and stayed with the Lehmans for a while. They still had the restaurant. So I was helping with the gas station. They had a full-time mechanic at that time. Then my sister was already in Berkeley. And so I decided I would go to Berkeley. And I went back to Berkeley. I had the GI bill. And between the GI bill and money that I had saved, I was able to get through Cal. I graduated in 1951. Got married in 1950. Met my lovely wife at Berkeley.

And then I was recalled into the service for the second time because in order to go through ROTC and get that \$50 a month, I had to sign up for the Reserve. And so I was in the Reserve. And once again I was told, you know, don't think you're going to be doing anything because you're going to be recalled.

And my military occupation special -- they call it MOS number -- was platoon leader rifle platoon. And so, you know, I knew I was slated. The Korean War had started two days after I got into summer camp, which was at Fort Lewis, Washington, if you're in advanced ROTC. All the men had to take ROTC for two years. And if you wanted to become an officer, you had to go two more years. And you were in the Reserve Officer Training Corps, ROTC.

So I had joined that to make the extra money so that we could -- plus I would work three days a week and go to school three days a week. I worked for a company called Sunbeam Corporation, which makes appliances. And I would demonstrate their appliances in the Bay Area every Saturday. Then I would -- no. Actually, I worked Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday because Monday, Wednesday and Friday I'd have classes. I set my classes up that way.

So once again after I graduated from Berkeley, we stayed in Los Angeles. Her parents were living there. And we lived with them. And I was looking for a job in commercial radio because I just had been interested. I thought that I would like to become a radio announcer and a disc jockey and things like that.

**What was your major?**

My major was general curriculum. So that qualified me for anything. And it was with the idea of getting to law school because I had decided I wanted to become a lawyer as I said early on. So let's see. This would be 19 -- I got out of the service in '47. So it would be '47 to '51.

And when I graduated the second time, I was told I was going to be recalled into the service, which I was. They had promised when I signed up for ROTC that I would be allowed to finish Berkeley no matter what. If an emergency arose I would still be allowed to finish Berkeley, but I would then be called into the service but as an officer. And, of course, having been an enlisted man -- I was discharged as a PFC -- it was quite different because you were really treated as a gentleman and you got better quarters, better food, better everything.

**What rank did you go --**

I was a second lieutenant. So shortly thereafter, I received my orders to go to Fort Benning, Georgia, to the infantry school. And I went to see -- I had helped -- an officer in the army had run an ad in the *Daily Cal*, which was our daily newspaper at Berkeley. And they were looking for people to get into a psychological warfare unit. So I thought to myself, jeez, if I'm going to be

recalled, I'd like to be in psy-war. And so I went to this officer and said I think I can fill your whole unit for you -- he was starting this new unit at the Presidio in San Francisco -- because I said there's plenty guys like me that know we're going to be going into the service and would rather get in to something like psychological warfare. So the guy said fine. And I did fill his whole unit for him.

But before I -- well, it took months to get clearance. You had to be cleared for secret in order to get into psychological warfare. Well, after my orders for Fort Benning, Georgia, came through, I contacted the fellow that was in charge of the unit that I had helped put together. And he said, well, don't worry about it, Jack. You'll get new orders and that will rescind your orders there. And you'll be going to Fort Riley, Kansas, to psychological warfare school. And I said that's great.

Well, I held my breath. But sure enough, a couple weeks later my orders came through rescinding the old orders and sending me to Fort Riley, Kansas, to psychological warfare school. I went through psychological warfare school there and then went through intelligence school. And then, you know, I was waiting for something to happen. And I got orders that I was going to go to Korea -- or go to the Far East, called FECOM.

So in the meantime, my wife got pregnant and she came home early and had our first child, who was a boy. And I got a 30-day furlough before I had to go over to the Far East. And I was going over as a psychological warfare man. And so that relieved me. And I was kind of looking forward to the experience because I knew I'd get some good experience, which it was. It was really interesting.

Our station was the mother station -- it was a radio -- of an 18-station network that broadcast. We had very powerful transmitters. And we could be heard for -- I don't know -- five hundred, a thousand miles away. So everything we put out was in Korean and in Chinese. So I had 200 Koreans working for me who were linguist in both Chinese and, obviously, Korean because that was their native language.

So I ended up being in Korea for ten months. I got to spend a month with my son after he was born. And for having to be in Korea, which certainly wasn't a nice place at that time because it was a war zone and it had been for sometime -- when I got in the borderlines had already been

changed four times because the North Koreans invaded first and they came almost all the way down to Pusan, which was in the southern tip of Korea. And then the Americans pushed them back. And we started going into North Korea. And we got to the 38th parallel and that's when the Chinese entered the war. And so they pushed the Americans and the Korean soldiers back down and didn't get as far as they had before. But then we counterattacked and we managed to get them up to the 38th parallel where it stayed until the war finally ended. And that was after I had gotten out of the service and everything.

So my experience in the service was I was running a radio network, which was exciting. And I was writing. I was supposed to have eight writers assigned to me and I only had three. So between the four of us, we wrote newscasts, news commentaries, radio scripts and dramas. You know, I got tremendous writing experience. And I was already a good typist. So I learned to type very fast.

Actually, you know, it wasn't -- I was lonely. I missed my wife tremendously and my son, obviously. And so I was over there in Korea for ten months and then came back home and was separated from the service. I was by now a first lieutenant. And they said they would make me a captain if I would reenlist. And I said no; I think I want to get the hell out of here, you know; I've got a family that I want to be with.

Her parents were living in Monrovia at that time just outside of Pasadena. And so we were living there with them. Then they moved here to Las Vegas. My father-in-law just loved this area. He loved the desert and he was a hiker, which I became because I like to hike. So we stayed there until I was able to find a job. You know, I thought in L.A. [Los Angeles] I would be able to find a job easily because that's the head --

**(End Tape 1, Side A.)**

I was looking for a job, but I couldn't find it in Southern California because the stations wanted people with experience. So some kind soul at one of the stations said, look, you ought to go to a place called Southern California Broadcasters Association and they have members, which are small radio stations, all over the Western United States; so why don't you go down there and sign up with them, which I did. And within a week they said there is an opening in Prescott, Arizona, which I said, well, where is Prescott? And they said, well, it's in Central Arizona and it's at

5200 feet high. So I said, well, hell, that's the elevation that I was raised at; so that's fine.

So my wife wasn't too thrilled. But we moved to Prescott, Arizona, which was a city of about 10,000 people. And for two years I broke into commercial radio. I learned to do everything there was to do. In a small station you do everything. You sell airtime. You write the commercials. You write good news commentaries. You do newscasts. You're a disc jockey. It was a postgraduate course in getting into radio and being paid for it, not a lot because I think I was making about \$75 a week when I started that job. And I was making about \$125 when I quit.

And because my in-laws had moved here, we decided to move to Las Vegas. In the meantime, my wife became pregnant with our second child, who is our daughter. So we lived here. We moved here to Las Vegas, which was very small. I mean there were 50,000 people here.

**Which year was that?**

That was 1955 because I was separated from the service in '53 and we moved here in '55. Other than that, we lived the two years in Prescott, Arizona.

**I have one question. The work that you were doing when you were in the psychological warfare unit, would we consider that propaganda today?**

Yes. It is propaganda. Yeah, that's what it was called. So no question. We would tell the truth. Our rules required that we tell the truth, but we could slant it, you know, which we did. So the writing experience I got there, it would have taken going to a university in the United States and I wouldn't have been getting paid for it. While I was in Korea I was making -- let's see. Well, I was making about \$400 a month. And that was quite good.

So anyway, I was recalled and we went to Fort Riley, Kansas. So I went through psychological warfare school, an intelligence school, and then waited to be sent overseas because I knew I was going to be going to the Far East Command. But in the meantime, I got to spend 30 days with my wife and son because my in-laws had moved to Las Vegas.

**So you came to Las Vegas in 1955 after Prescott. Tell me what Las Vegas looked like then.**

Well, it was a relatively small city of 50,000 people. As a matter of fact, now days as I look back on it, Maryland Parkway stopped at what was then called San Francisco Street, but it's now called Sahara. We lived right near Sahara -- and it had changed to Sahara -- and Maryland Parkway. That was the first. We lived in some duplexes there. Then we bought a house.

I bought a house. I had two GI bills. So I had all kinds of easy things. And in those days you could get -- I think we paid about \$19,000 for the house. My payments on the house, which was a 30-year loan, were \$101 a month. And, you know, that was cheaper than most rents here in Las Vegas at that time.

Of course, at that time in 1955, Las Vegas was just exploding. They were building new hotels all the time. No hotel was higher than two floors at that time. In about 1957 or '58, the Riviera was built.

My father-in-law was in the finance business. And he had been in that business for a long time. And so I went to work for him and actually learned the finance business. I got a job in an advertising agency, also. So I had two jobs because I really wanted to get into radio and television. And so I was working for different radio and television stations in town here and I was making all the commercials for that advertising agency. So I was making good money because I was working for my father-in-law and in the advertising agency.

So I did that until in 1958 there was a fellow named Grant Sawyer who ran for governor from Elko. And I didn't even know where Elko was. I had never been out of Clark County here. And so they set up during the '58 elections -- first of all, one of my best friends introduced me to Grant Sawyer. And Grant wanted me to come and work with the campaign. And he wasn't in any position when he decided to run for governor to pay anybody. If you worked for Grant, you worked for free. So I did that.

But I had income because I was still working for my father-in-law. And I got to be well-known here in the community through -- I started out with a kids program. I was known as Commander Lee. And I had about 7500 little submariners running around Las Vegas when, you know, there were only 50,000 people in town. So that was really interesting. Of course, I got into television, too, which was important because that was obviously the industry of the future.

So I did all kinds of work. I had a daily newscast five days a week at Channel 8 from 11 to -- in those days it was a five-minute newscast from 11:00 to 11:05. They don't have those anymore. So, you know, everything was going very, very well.

And Grant called me and said that he had just fired the director of the Department of Economic Development here in the state because the guy was a Republican and he couldn't adjust

to a democratic administration because the Department of Economic Development was supposed to be the publicity arm of the state government. So he said would I be interested in that? And I said, well, I assume I'd have to move to Carson City. And he said that's right. Of course, I had never even been to Carson City. And so I said but I'll talk to Lou-Lou, my wife, and see if she would consider it because I'd love to do it. And so she said it was okay. So we moved to Carson City.

**She never worked outside the home?**

She didn't at that time. But she had a bachelor's degree from Berkeley. We graduated together. And she had done some school teaching while she was in Kansas. And she was a first grade teacher and a third grade teacher for the time that she was there. And so she had that as background. And we had a lady that came in five days a week to clean the house and do things like that. So between the two of us, we were making really good money. And we just kept doing it until Carson City called.

**Carson City. So Carson City, what happens?**

Carson City was just a small town. There were 4500 people there at that time. And we moved up there, found a house. You know, I would work my normal ten hours a day usually not because I had to, but because I enjoyed my -- you know, I've been blessed.

**It sounds like it.**

In my entire life I have never had a job I didn't like.

**That's wonderful.**

And so it was good. I never minded working 50, 60, 70 hours a week because when you enjoy doing something -- kind of like you. I'm sure you enjoy this job because it must be fascinating.

**Wonderful. Yes, it is.**

Because I used to do interviews among other things, "man in the street" kinds of things.

So we did that. We moved up to Carson City. Had a house, a nice house, in a new area because Carson City was expanding and there were a lot of new homes being built up there. And we lived up there from 1959 to 1963. And it was at that time that I decided that this would be a good time to go to law school.

**And before you start talking about law school, tell me just a little bit about Grant Sawyer**

**because he was the governor that made a difference in the lives of black people in Nevada.**

He made a difference with regard to black people which -- you know, he had pretty liberal Democrats like me on his staff. So things changed a whole lot in the state and as a result of -- you know, when I came here and saw that there was no integration, that blacks weren't even allowed into the hotels, you know, it infuriated me because after all I had been subject to abuse when I was young as far as being Jewish. And so I could understand. And I just didn't understand that going on in the United States.

**And you probably didn't understand it in Nevada after Little Rock and Fort Benning and now it's here in this state.**

Oh, I understood it. I mean I knew that. And I didn't like it. And Grant did slowly get things moving. And that was not easy to do in those days. Fortunately, he came from Elko. You know, if you're from Las Vegas, then you're one of those goddamn Jew liberals, anyway, and so forth and so on. But when you come from Northern Nevada -- that's the cow counties -- you were considered a cut above the rest and so forth.

Of course, this has been a democratic state forever -- or it was much more -- it was solidly democratic. There were no Republicans -- well, actually, the governor that Grant beat was a Republican. But that was amazing. His name was Charlie Russell. And he was from Northern Nevada. Of course, there was more population in Reno than there was in Vegas at that time. But other than that, Nevada had been very solidly democratic. One of the two senators was a Republican. His name was George W. Malone. "Molly" Malone they called him. And Alan Bible was the other one. And a fellow named Howard Cannon was running against "Molly" Malone.

And '58 was a clean sweep for the Democrats. We won every office in the state with the exception of lieutenant governor. Lieutenant governor was Rex Bell, a former cowboy movie star. And Rex had been lieutenant governor for two terms. You know, now days I think you vote for a governor and lieutenant governor at the same time. They have to be the same people. In those days they were totally separate offices. [Governors and Lt. Governors still run independently.] So the lieutenant governor out of the all the offices in the state was the only one that was elected. Rex Bell was a very charming guy. Everybody liked him. A lot of people had seen his movie. He was a western star. And he was a nice guy because I met him on numerous occasions.

**And his wife was very well-known.**

Yes, right. Yeah. That was --

**Clara Bow.**

Yes. So anyway, we liked Carson City. Lou-Lou wasn't as thrilled about it as I was. But I was in a very exciting job and heading up a department, which gave me a lot of status. And I pretty well could travel wherever I wanted to because we were trying to get industry into the state of Nevada. And so I was traveling quite a bit. It was hard on Lou-Lou because she had two kids to take care of. But, of course, that kept her busy.

We lived in a very nice place called the Mountain Club in Prescott. And it was nearly a new home. It had only been built about a year before. And so we really enjoyed it there.

**Good. Now, was it in a country club setting?**

Yes, it was. In fact, it was called the Country Club Area. Now, it didn't have a golf course with it. And they called it Country Club because it was out in the country. We were about, oh, eight or nine miles outside of Prescott itself.

But when you're working for a small radio station like that and it's the only radio station in town -- and in the summertime because of electrical storms -- they either listen to you or they didn't listen to the radio. So we had a good following. And you know I kind of figured that I would keep doing that and, ultimately, I'd like to run for the assembly in Arizona and so forth and so on.

**So you were thinking about politics even then.**

Oh, I've always been active politically and very concerned about it. My parents weren't. When you go to Berkeley, you tend to become -- if you're not liberal already, you become fairly liberal.

**Tell me about the housing area that you lived in in Carson City.**

They were duplexes. And they're still standing there. They run from 15th Street to Maryland Parkway and from --

**In Carson City?**

No, no, no, no. Now we're back here. That was before I went to Carson City. I went to Carson City after I got back from Korea.

**That's right. So you were just talking about living in Carson City and how you were**

**traveling.**

Correct.

**And how your wife had to stay at home, really.**

Correct.

**What kind of area did you live in in Carson City?**

We lived in a mountain-type area. It was a new area that had been built about the year before. It was a nice new home. We lived right at the foot of a hill. It was called "C Hill because it had a big "C" for Carson City on the side of the hill. It's still there.

But we became very close with all the people in government. You know, for someone like me who didn't know anybody when I moved here, I got to know everybody in that whole damn town and very well. I engaged in civic activities and things like that. And I loved being on radio.

**So now, did you get to do any radio in Carson City?**

In Carson City, no, because I was plenty busy being director of Economic Development. I had an assistant and the two of us had a secretary. That's the size of the Department of Economic Development.

**What kind of businesses did you have a part in helping to bring to Nevada?**

Trying to bring in some manufacturing businesses so that we could create -- you know, so everybody didn't have to work for the casinos. Grant's whole idea was to get some industry in. Now, industry was not likely to locate out in the cow counties unless they needed a lot of land in order to do -- well, development of weapons and things like that. There were a couple of companies that did that.

But anyway, I got to know this state like the back of my hand. I got a new car when I got in there. And it about 90,000 miles on it when I quit four years later to go to law school.

**Where did you go to law school?**

I went to USC.

**Now, why USC and not Berkeley? What was it, Boalt?**

Well, no, because I really wanted to go where -- well, first of all, Lou-Lou's parents were living here by that time.

**In Las Vegas. That's right.**

I could've gotten into Boalt Hall, which was -- what do they call it? -- the "Yale of the West" or something like that.

**That's right. Yes.**

But I wanted to stay in Los Angeles because, you know, Lou-Lou has a large family in Southern California.

**And then you weren't that far away from her parents in Las Vegas.**

Correct. Exactly right. Well, by then they had already moved back to L.A., as a matter of fact.

No. Let's see. They hadn't because we bought this house from them in '72 and they bought it brand-new in 1964.

**The house where we are now?**

Yeah.

**Oh, so her parents lived here at one time.**

They owned the house first when it was brand-new.

**I hate to get off the subject of law school. But this house is just beautiful. So tell me about this house. Were they the first ones to own it?**

They were the first ones to own it. And as far as the decorations are concerned, my wife was an artist. She did all the paintings in this house.

**Oh. And I admire this one with the circles. That is wonderful.**

Yeah. And all the others. And, obviously, that gave her something to really do because I was working most of the time. So that's how. But, yeah, all of these paintings are hers. And we loved living here in Las Vegas.

**Oh, yes, on the golf course. So how big are these houses? How many bedrooms and bathrooms are in most of these houses?**

When we bought this house, it had three bedrooms. The master bedroom's over here. Then there was a bedroom in there and a bedroom on this side, both very small. And we've added on. We added a whole quarter of a house on this side. We made the master bedroom very large. And we have a shower, bath, whirlpool bath and two closets so that we each had a closet and so forth. The second thing we did was to build that patio out there with the roof on it.

**Oh, that is wonderful.**

Yeah. We loved it. My wife set out the landscaping and told the gardeners what to do. And so she really did that. And as far as everything in this house, it's her. And so I kind of think that she's still around. I miss her. Well, we were married 57 years.

**Oh, that is wonderful. What a wonderful love story.**

Yeah. Well, it is. And she was a beautiful, beautiful, intelligent lady.

**Now, is that her picture on the floor as you walk in?**

It surely is. She's the first person I want to see when I walk into the house. And she was just lovely, absolutely wonderful. You know, we had a good marriage. We'd argue once in a while just like all married people do, but we always worked it out. And we had an exciting life here.

**That's great. It sounds like it.**

**So now, after all of the exciting things you had done, radio in Prescott and then you were here and then you were in Carson City, how did you decide to stop all of that and go to law school?**

I'd always wanted to go to law school. But I couldn't afford to go and support a family, which I had at that time when I got out of the service. And so that was why I needed to get a job. And I wanted to get into commercial radio. You know, I kept pounding on doors. Of course, I don't know how many hundreds of radio stations there are in Southern California, Los Angeles area. There's plenty of them. So I didn't ever run out of radio. But they'd say, yeah, you're a nice guy, and it's nice that you're a veteran and that you're a veteran from after World War II and in the Korean War and that you were in Korea, but, you know, you've got to get some experience. And that's how I got to Prescott.

**So how did you feel being back in Los Angeles and being a student again?**

Oh, I thought it was -- I loved it. The first year of law school is a killer. It is so hard because you have to learn to think differently. And you have to be totally in control. I mean you have to be creative to be a good lawyer. And I decided I wanted to be a good lawyer. And ultimately I did. I had gotten to know -- the largest law firm in town is Lionel Sawyer and Collins. And Sam Lionel -- I had become friendly with him while I was working in radio before I went to law school. So he said, you know, be sure you talk to me when you graduate because I'd like you to come into my firm. And he had the largest firm in town at that time. So I started out working for

them for a year and a half. And that was a good experience because I got to work with Sam Lionel, who's a genius and also a walking computer.

**Is that why you decided to come back here after USC?**

Sure. I never had any doubts that I wanted to live in Nevada. I never had any doubts I didn't want to live in Los Angeles. The one thing that I acquired in between time with another attorney -- 24 years ago we bought a condominium at Redondo Beach, which is really right on the water. There is the ocean and then there is about 70 or 80 yards of sand and then there's a nine-mile bicycle path that runs from Torrance down to -- well, nine-miles. So that's a place where we go at least once a month. It's just absolutely wonderful. You go to bed at night and open the window a crack and you hear the surf all night long. Puts you back to sleep if you -- and that's where I was last week, as a matter of fact.

**Well, I forgive you then. [Judge Lehman missed our earlier appointment]. You were in Redondo Beach. That's wonderful.**

Yes, indeed. Considering the fact that I was in a high-powered firm that had a hell of a lot of stress involved in it, it was ideal to be able to get there because we would go there and it would be like taking off a cloak of stress. And I'd just relax. And that was just wonderful.

**What kind of law did you practice at Lionel Sawyer and --**

It was purely civil law. I never had a criminal case until I became a judge. I became a judge because I knew all the people in town at that time. You know, in the position I held, I was able to continue -- because part of the job was making Grant Sawyer look like a great guy, which I continued to do. And so I was down here quite a bit. And I liked Carson City. It was a nice city to be in. And it was growing like mad.

**So you knew everybody throughout the state. So it was logical for you to become a judge.**

Exactly right. Absolutely.

**So how long did you practice in the law firm before you were --**

Twenty years.

**And then you became a judge.**

That's correct. Then I became a judge. By then I knew everybody in politics. And as long as we had a democratic governor, I knew darn well -- and Dick Bryan appointed me to the bench. And I

had known Dick -- I knew his father before him, Oscar Bryan, who was a well-known attorney in our town. He was with the in-group. And I got within the in-group right away when I moved back here because I knew all these people.

**Tell me what the robing ceremony is like.**

Well, you know, it's like a graduation -- well, it's more than a graduation from a university. Suddenly you become a lawyer. And to me that was power. And to me that meant that nobody's going to crap on me again ever. And it worked out that way. And I paid my dues as far as being a lawyer.

I got great experience. I got to work with Sam Lionel himself, although he was not the most giving of persons. I started out at \$10,000 a month -- a year. It would have been lovely a month. Ten thousand a year. And when I left there in a year and a half, I was earning I think \$11,000. But I went into practice for myself. And I knew so many people here that I really brought business -- there were two fellows that were doing personal injury work. I had done no personal injury up at Lionel and Sawyer. And so they taught me the personal injury business. And that's where you can really make a lot of money. And the more people you know, the more money you make. So, you know, it just worked out for me.

**What was the name of your firm?**

Well, first of all, the first firm was Lionel Sawyer, Sawyer being the ex-governor. And Grant got me into that firm, although I had known Sam Lionel, anyway. And working for Sam was like working for a college professor because the guy's a walking computer. He never forgets anything. And if you go into him with a legal problem, which I would do regularly when I first started practicing law, he would sit back a minute and say, well, Swathmore versus Horgus. He said it's about a 1952 case from California. And I'd go check the indexes and come up with Swathmore versus Horgus. And it was right on point. That's how my research would get done.

But I had to do really primarily all my own research, which was great because it taught me that end of the business. And that's an important end of the business. Well, between Sam and Grant I had it made in that firm. And pretty much what I wanted I got except for money.

**So what did it feel like leaving them and going on your own?**

It felt wonderful. And they were wonderful about it because they did nothing but suggest things

that I should be doing and so forth and so on. And Lionel and Sawyer, as it was known as in those days, had a lot of cases where they had conflicts. They referred all of those to me. And so I did tremendously well. I was making about 300,000 a year. The first eight months in the business I made \$40,000 and that from Lionel and Sawyer when I was making 11. So it was exciting to help build that law firm. And then between us -- it was Cochran -- no. Let's see. It was Pomerantz and Cochran when I joined the firm, when they got me in. Then it became Pomerantz, Cochran and Lehman. And then Pomerantz, who was addicted to drugs, finally dropped out. And it became Cochran, Lehman -- and there was a guy named Roy Nelson that came to work for us about three or four months after I joined the firm. And then it ended up being Lehman and Nelson was the firm that I had when I became a judge.

**Wow. That is an amazing career. That is just a wonderful career.**

Yeah, it is. It's been exciting. I wish to hell I had my little wife back.

**(End Tape 1, Side B.)**

So she had an interesting career and I had an interesting career.

**So how long did she serve as a marriage and family counselor?**

Oh, about 15 years.

**Oh, my.**

She built up a good-sized practice.

**So after you finished USC, she went back to school?**

She did. As a matter of fact, she went to school part-time and was working part-time. She had worked at a Montessori school while I was in law school in California. So there were no Montessori teachers in this town. And she became the first Montessori teacher in Las Vegas. And that would have been in 1963. And so she continued to work because she enjoyed working like I did.

**That's great.**

And our daughter was still in high school, but our son was already at UNR. Both of them have been enormously successful.

**So did they both go to school at UNR?**

They started out at UNR. And Steve finished up at UNLV because he got a better job down here

than he had up there. My daughter went to UC Irvine and got her bachelor's degree. And then she went to USC and got a master's degree in psychiatric social work. And my daughter's a therapist now.

Lou-Lou remained a therapist until maybe eight or nine years ago. And then she just thought she'd take it easy and do a little more painting. You know, neither one of us had to work because I had made so damn much money in law that it was just wonderful. That was one thing about Pomerantz and Cochran. They taught me how to make money.

**That's wonderful. Tell me about being a judge and that kind of responsibility that comes with that job.**

You know, that was one thing I must say about having been an officer in the service. It prepared me to be able to run an office and to deal with people. And that was of enormous help to me because to be a good lawyer you've got to be able to deal with people and you've got to be able to think fast and think on your feet and so forth.

I got active in the Toastmasters Club when I moved here to Las Vegas in 1955. And I always remained active in Toastmasters. So I was a good speaker. I didn't have any trouble at all. I could think on my feet. I had a good memory, which is what you've got to have. So it was exciting. It was building all that up.

Getting the robe was the answer to a dream because I had been dreaming of becoming a lawyer since I was about 13 or 14.

**When you used to dream about becoming a lawyer, did you think judge, also?**

No, I didn't. Never thought judge. I started thinking judge when I was practicing law because I thought I would like to do that because a judge made a hell of a lot less than I was making. It just wasn't any comparison.

**But at that point in your life you really had earned the kind of money that you knew that would last.**

Yeah. And I had made contact with stockbrokers that really made me a tremendous amount of money. So now I have all the money I need for the rest of my life and I'm going to leave my -- both of my kids are very wealthy.

My son is a multi-multimillionaire. He started out in commercial radio, interestingly

enough. We had a picture of -- I wish I had it around here, but I don't -- when he was two years old in front of a microphone, which had KYCA, which were the call letters of Prescott. So he got into commercial radio. He was putting shows together. And he became a radio syndication company. They had 1300 radio stations throughout the United States that they had managed to develop. And they would make programs and they would send them out to all these places. They would create the programs and put commercials into them so that they would be -- they were dealing with national agencies and making all kind of money. I don't know how much money Steve's worth, but it's in the millions.

And Jessie still works today as a psychiatric social worker. So she's got a good practice built up. Her husband is a psychiatrist.

**So she's in private practice?**

Yes. Absolutely. And she loves her work. Her husband -- if I had to go out and pick somebody for her to marry, I would've picked this guy. He is just absolutely the most delightful, charming guy in the world, very giving, very loving, much more so than my parents ever were. So it's been an exciting life.

**Oh, yes. It sounds like it. It sounds just wonderful.**

**Tell me about some of the organizations that you belonged to. Did you become a rotary member?**

Never became a rotary member. Let's see. The service clubs I belonged to were Sertoma and I always belonged to two or three of them.

**Now, what is Sertoma?**

It's a service club like Elks Lodge and the others and so forth.

**How are you spelling that?**

S-e-r-t-o-m-a, Sertoma.

**This is the first time I've heard of this.**

Really? They're still around.

**And this was here in Las Vegas?**

Yeah. Everywhere. They're all over the country.

**I have to do my history. Okay. So what kind of service did they offer the community?**

Primarily just a get-together. And Toastmasters was the one I really got involved in. And I was religious going to those because that's where I learned to stand on my feet and talk. And that became very, very -- originally, when I first got into law, I really thought I would like to go ahead and end up being either a congressman, a senator or a governor or something like that. I certainly wanted to be in active in politics.

But when it came time to move to Carson City, Lou-Lou said if you promise me you'll never run for a political office again -- because in 1958 I ran for the assembly and damn near got elected and I had only been here two and a half years. And this was anything but a cosmopolitan state. And so I thought I could do a lot of good if I could get into the legislature and so forth. But I never ended up doing that because Lou-Lou really wanted me to work a regular job and so forth, which I did.

As I say within a few years I had made enough money where I didn't have to worry. And that was due in great part to Lionel and Sawyer because they referred me -- when they send you clients, they're good clients. They have money and you don't have to worry about collecting bills. So that was good. And actually I learned business with the Lehmans up at Lake Arrowhead.

**That's right. That's where you started.**

I was running that gas station and a garage and so forth.

**So those are your two service organizations.**

There were more.

**Yes. I have been making little comments here. You told me about Grant Sawyer.**

**What kind of person was Dick Bryan?**

Dick was an outstanding young man. Actually, he was much more capable than his father, who was a lawyer. Dick was a very good lawyer, very gregarious. He started running I think for the assembly and then for the state senate. And then he became lieutenant governor. And then he became the governor. And he became the governor I think -- I've forgotten who he -- well, that was a long time ago.

But anyway, really I got into politics in 1956 after I came here within the first year and was very active in the Democratic Party. And anybody that really wants to be active can be as active as hell because there's no limits on -- they're always looking for people to do things.

**Do you know Harriet Trudell?**

Oh, very well. Sure. Harriet and I are good friends and many, many, many years. She is a marvelous lady, absolutely marvelous. I love Harriet.

**Great. That's wonderful.**

**Did you ever practice -- and this is probably before your time. I'm not sure. In the old post office downtown, okay, there was a courthouse upstairs.**

Yeah, there was. That was the federal courthouse, as a matter of fact. But I never practiced there. Well, where the courthouse is -- not where it is now, but where it was for years and years, it was the old Fifth Street School back in those days. That school went from Bridger to -- it took up a whole block. In fact, there was only one high school in town when I moved here and that was Las Vegas High. I think Gorman started about that time and they grew very fast. Everything just started expanding.

And property that had been in the middle of the desert was terrific. So it was an exciting place to live. And going to all the shows.

**Tell me about the entertainment life for you and your wife.**

Well, you know, the main casinos in town when we moved here -- the El Rancho was the first one. And then Sahara was handled by the advertising agency that I worked out of in the 50s. That was one of the early casinos. The Sands. The Desert Inn. Desert Inn was one of the oldest. Flamingo was -- well, that was really one of the oldest. That's about all the -- let's see. Were there other -- the Frontier. They called it the Last Frontier then. And then they called it the New Frontier and then they just called it the Frontier.

**Now, how was downtown compared to the Strip at that time, this growing Strip?**

You know, it's interesting because it hasn't changed a hell of a lot. That area hasn't really grown at all. But it didn't have all the development that it has now. It didn't have all the casinos that it has now. You know, a lot of those people ended up being my sponsors. The Sahara, interestingly enough, sponsored my newscast for three or four years. It was really fun. But I got to know Milton Prell real well. He was the guy that built the Sahara.

**How did you feel about -- in those days we called it the mob or families?**

I know what you mean. Yeah.

**So what was that like? I mean you're an attorney and what was that like?**

Well, to tell you the truth, those people behaved themselves when they were here in Nevada. I mean they had never had it so good. They were in a place where what they make their money at was legal. And they could go up in the casino world as high as their talents would take them. So I think they all loved it here, just loved it.

**And the community loved them.**

Absolutely. You bet. There were some real mobs here at that time. You know, you knew about them and you knew they were mobsters if you were introduced to them. But they were also good businessmen.

**That's right. You had started talking about the entertainment, what you and your wife would do for entertainment.**

Well, the best entertainment -- the best stars, the singers, the performers -- they all came here. And they made more money here than they had ever made before. Well, the Flamingo always -- well, all the ones I mentioned had big-name entertainers. And they were battling each other to get them to come in. So those stars were making -- all of them were making between 30 and a hundred thousand dollars a week, a week, you know. So it was exciting. I knew the people because of the positions, the elected positions -- not elected; I wasn't in the elected, but I mean in the government that I was in. I got to know all those people and I could get a reservation anytime I wanted. And my room, food and drinks were always covered.

**So did you and your wife sometimes -- would you spend the night sometimes in a casino in a hotel?**

Not here. No. We didn't have to because we always had a nice house. But I'd come down here without her and I would stay in casinos.

**So sometimes when you were working in Carson City?**

Correct.

**Well, that is wonderful.**

**Now, this house --**

Built in '64.

**So your in-laws --**

Bought it new.

**And you were already through with USC when you purchased it?**

Yes. We had moved here. At first we lived in a place that I got on the GI bill. It was on Ocotillo Court, which is right near Desert Inn and Eastern.

**So really close to where we are right now.**

Yeah. Right. Not far at all.

**This is such a little hidden away area that I'm surprised that it's not -- it's almost old enough to be on the historic registry.**

Yeah. I reckon.

**I have to look into that. That's nice. I would love a photograph.**

I'll get you one.

**Good. I would love a photograph to put in. Eventually, we will have it transcribed and we'll make it into a book form and you'll get a copy of the book.**

That would be lovely.

**We're still trying to get -- the person that told me about you is Bob Clark. How did you know Bob?**

We started practicing law together at Lionel and Sawyer. That's how long I've known Bob. He was the tax lawyer up there. And he's still my tax lawyer now. You know, we just became good friends. Bob's a hell of a nice guy and very bright. And he's got two sons that are in law. So he's doing a good job.

**The two of you remind me of each other because you smile a lot.**

Oh, well. I guess that's because we like people.

**I think you're both very successful and very happy.**

That's true.

**It shows. Well, I think I have gotten everything out of you that --**

Well, that's lovely. It's just nice to meet you.

**Wonderful meeting you.**

And I'll get you a photograph. I'll give you a call. So that'll be fine.

**Thank you so much.**

Thank you so much.

**Okay. As I was about to fold up my suitcase here, you were just telling me that you've taught at UNLV. So tell me about that.**

I taught at UNLV for 14 years. I taught a course called hotel law. It was really fun. I saw the university when it was just -- I started out there in 1968. And there were only about two buildings out at the university. And to see where it's grown now it's just phenomenal. But if I could've made as much money teaching as I made at practicing law, I would've been in a teacher because I love teaching.

**So how did it come about that you started working at UNLV?**

A fellow that had been a lawyer at Lionel and Sawyer where I was working was moving out of the state and he needed somebody to take over this class, which he had been teaching. He just started there and he had worked there for one year. And it was in the new college of hotel administration at that time. That would have been about 1968.

I just enjoyed teaching that course so much. I taught it at night so it didn't even interfere with my work. I had 14 years of enjoyment out of it. I'd teach on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. It was fun. It was a great course and we built it up. And I kind of watched the university grow around me. I must have taught in five or six different buildings. As the new ones opened up, I'd usually get a room in there and so forth. And teaching is something that I really enjoy.

**So two questions. Tell me about the gift to the hotel school from Harrah's. Did you hear about that?**

I know it's a large amount of money.

**\$30 million.**

Yeah. I think that's just wonderful. I can't say enough good things about this school because I enjoyed 14 lovely years out of there. As a matter of fact, I still get together with the fellow who was dean, Jerry Vallen was his name. He's one of my dear friends. And we get together for dinner, he and Flos, his wife Flos. We used to go out to dinner together quite a bit. I still see him. He's retired now, too.

**That's correct. We did an oral history project for the 50th anniversary. And he was one of the people we interviewed.**

Is that right?

**Yes. So we just interviewed him the other day.**

Well, he was a major contributor to that university because he did great things there.

**Yes. Being a lawyer what do you think about our law school?**

I think it's a wonderful law school. My lord. I wish the building had been there when I was going there. But anyway, it's nice to go out there. I've attended several programs in there. I think the students are lucky to have this nearly new university. It's been done really well.

**Oh, yes. And now they have even a third building that they've added to the law school, the moot court building.**

Oh, that's good because they needed a moot court because that gets you into what a real courtroom situation is like.

**Well, is it okay now if I turn off the recorder?**

Yeah. Bye. If I think of something else, I'll let you know.

**Thank you for that.**

Okay.

**(End Tape 2, Side A.)**