

Name of Oral History Project: Adair County: One Room Schools

Tape # 1 of 1

Name of narrator: Ms. Minnie Corbin Rubarts

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Name of principal interviewer: Aileen R. Rubo

Equipment used: Brand: ; Amount (side 1) all ; (side 2)

Brief description of interview context and tape contents:

The interview took place in the home of Ms. Rubarts. Main discussion was over schools in Adair County that Ms. Rubarts attended as a student and a teacher. Other general questions are answered about Henry and Janice Holt Giles. One telephone interruption on tape.

Begin Side One

Rubo: This is March 14, 1998 and I am in Adair County in the home of Ms. Minnie Rubarts. This is Aileen Rubo. Okay, let's get started. What was the name of the school you attended as a child?

Rubarts: Desaportmant, also known as Bull Run.

Rubo: What is your fondest memory of that school?

Rubarts: Probably running over the hill to the big old spring and getting cold water. See who could get their first and skating on the creek when the ice was so deep.

Rubo: What did the school look like outside?

Rubarts: It is just a large weather boarded building with the front part mounded on limestone rocks. And the entrance to the old school had limestone rocks bricked, stobbed around in under the foundation. And on one side there was a door or an open let where you could get back underneath the floor, ^{High on one side,} and then the ball diamond play ground course was about all we had then. And the jumping rope was our activity.

Rubo: Can you tell me what it looked like inside?

Rubarts: Inside, there were double seats and black boards up on the wall, two black boards at the back of the teacher's desk and a pot bellied stove in the center.

Rubo: What was your favorite teacher and why?

Rubarts: Probably my favorite teacher was Faline Balloo who was a teacher that lived within the community. However, Mrs. Alley ^{Lundiff,} ~~Cumbee~~ who still lives now is one of my teachers, and she is now a hundred and four at the nursing home ^{here} ~~near~~. And we all love Mrs. ^{Lundiff} ~~Cumbee~~. Mother and Dad thought so much of her that they named one of the girls, Alley after her.

Rubo: What subjects did you study?

Rubarts: All eight, all grades. But I'm, of course when I came in to high school I stayed with the basics, high school requirements. But I did enjoy Home Ec.

Rubo: What kind of chores did you have to do before going to school?

Rubarts: I had to get up, usually mother was in bed with a new baby. I had to get up and cook and get the others ready to go to school. And then, of course, I had to do laundry, being the oldest girl. And the laundry, plus the canning and freezing. All those things.

Rubo: What kinds of things did you do after you got home from school?

Rubarts: Well I, usually is wash^e diapers to tell you the truth. We had a big old spring and a big old black kettle down by the spring house, and every afternoon why there was a load of diapers to be washed.

Rubo; Tell me about some of your friends and classmates.

Rubarts: Who were some of them? Well Francis Pelley, who also attended that school, and Elizabeth Hutcheson, were my best girl friends. And I didn't have any boyfriends, didn't have time for them.

Rubo: What were some things that you did with your best friends?

Rubarts: Well, we would exchange visits. I'd go spend a night with Francis. Elizabeth was so close she lived just cross field from where I lived. But Francis lived like the south west section of Dad's farm. She was on one side of the highway and our farm was on the other side. So Francis and I would exchange nights.

Rubo: What was the usual daily school schedule like?

Rubarts: Well you begin, first you answer the role call. (Phone rings) Would you excuse me just a minute please.

[tape stopped and then resumed]

Rubo: What was the usual daily school schedule like?

Rubarts: Well when the school, each morning, by answering the role call was a quoting a verse out of the Bible. That was the way you answered your role. You stood and you quoted a verse out of the Bible. and then course, also we received stars. If you missed a day you missed a star or something equivalent to a star. Then you began with a reading and spelling and in writing assignment. From that you'd go to arithmetic. In the

afternoon you'd get language and science and social studies. And that was our program. Of course Geography played a big part in the social studies, lots of drawing maps. And in a, we always had some free time in our after lunch, usually about 30 minutes for art. Art was important back in those days.

Rubo: What kind of things did children pack to school with them?

Rubarts: Well, you'd be surprised what I packed. Most of the time, before I was in school at one time to this, and in the winter time we would ride the horse. And we would have to pack some corn for the horse to have for his lunch too. We tied him up in to a tree out in the timber just behind the old building. And then we went out and fed him his lunch. Usually the boys would do that. But I can remember one bad experience on that horse back riding, if you want to hear it.

Rubo: Love to.

Rubarts: My neighbor, Hutchesen rode a horse too and he was just as mischievous as he could be. And one day, and four of us was on this one horse, course we were all young. My brother, was oldest, was in front and the harness, he took care of that part, the bridal. And Benjamin got smart, he came up by us and kicked our horse in the tummy. Of course I was the oldest to protect the little fellows in between. And what happened, I went of the back end of the horse and fell to the ground. And so from then on I didn't want to speak or see Benjamin for ages. We was, it didn't do me a great bit of harm. Just made me made.

Rubo: Tell me about the typical items in your lunch.

Rubarts: In our lunch? As a rule, we always had an apple, because we buried that apples in a hill out in the country then. Then we'd take them off of the trees at a ripe stage and Dad would tell us how and we'd mound up the ground and put straw down and then pour like two or three bushel of apples in like a like a stack of hay like type on that. And then cover it with straw again and then end up putting something over the top, usually it was metal, not metal or some type of roofing shingles or something to keep it dry. And then we kept a little hole where we could get apples. We'd go in and get apples out. We always had an apple as a rule. And then of course we made home made bread. White bread, we'd call it. And in meat, we'd always have lots of country ham meat, not only that Dad had a grocery store. and we had all types of canned things from the whole sale house. Which was then known as the Durham Wholesale Business. And of course, I worked at the store a lot, too. Because the tenants would come in and buy their groceries there, they lived on our farm. So we always ate well.

Rubo: How did this lunch compare with others children had?

Rubarts: Most of us had about the same. They didn't always have the fruit, but they always had good food. No one starved. Never saw a real hungry child in my school in those times. Lots of us shared. Many of time I didn't want my apple and I give it to somebody else. We were all guilty of doing that.

Rubo: What did the girls do during recess?

Rubarts: Usually we sat out under a tree away from the boys. They didn't want the boys to be around them. Of course they would pick at the girls and lot of times they were punished for aggregating the girls. And I can remember quite well that the only time I

2-6

ever got a whipping was because I did something I wasn't supposed to do of course. Joe Collins was trying to flirt with me and I was in the eighth grade, too. He kept throwing that ball and hitting me, just burning me to death I remember with that old ball. But we had a rule, and if you threw that ball of the school ground over in the other farmers field well, you got punished, you got a whipping. Well, Joe, I told, that time it was Marie Collins who was teaching it. And I kept telling her to make Joe leave me alone. He kept hitting me with the ball every time we'd get out on the playground. He'd just burn me to death with that big old rubber ball. And so when ever the last time he hit me with that ball, I grabbed that ball and I through it way over the fence. And of course I got a lick with the switch. Only time I ever got a lick with the switch.

Rubo: What did the boys do during recess besides pick on the girls?

Rubarts: Well, they usually played ball. Every big hand, and course we girls joined them to on softballs. We didn't have baseball, it was all softball. And then we jumped rope. We had a rope we'd swing the rope, we all would jump that. That was a lot of fun. It didn't, the ground was rough, but we could always have a smooth place for that.

Rubo: How far did you travel to school?

Rubarts: Two miles.

Rubo: What do you remember about traveling to school and back?

Rubarts: About traveling to school. Well the one incident in which I fell of the hips of the horse was one. And the rest, in the summer time the dust would be so deep. Yours, you'd just be covered with dust when you got there. And then in the winter time why we had knee high boots, rubber boots we snapped on and off when we walked, but you'd get

to the place you could run about a third of the time. Especially if you were running late, because you build up muscles.

Rubo: Tell me about pranks children played in your school.

Rubarts: Pranks they played? Well at one time, Joe and I were special friends I guess.

Joe kept flirting with me and Joe would write me a love note and stick it under one of those corner posts that went under that building to that floor. And the kids found out that Joe was writing me a note, so they'd slip and get the notes and read them. That's, it didn't amount to anything, but that was a bout the most mischievous thing I could think of. And then usually the boys would turn the girls, the old toilet over and then they'd have to get the men to come and turn it back. They would do that to us.

Rubo: How did teachers discipline students?

Rubarts: Pardon.

Rubo: How did teachers discipline students?

Rubarts: Well most of the time, the little fellows make them stand up at the black board. and a few times I've seen them make them put their nose in a ring against the black board. Draw a ring, and when they wouldn't stand still or wouldn't be quite, or giggle or disturb the teacher, why she'd draw a ring on the board and tell them to stick their nose down there. Let stand five or ten minutes or however how long, not too long. Not enough to damage them. And of course everybody'd get a kick out of that. That was fun for them. And a lot of times they'd make do them do reports write so much. And then a few times they used the switch, not a lot.

Rubo: What holidays were celebrated at school?

Rubarts: Well it was always... Well we didn't observe the holidays all the time. We would meet Thanksgiving and Christmas. And of course at Christmas we always had the Christmas programs. All parents came in to hear everybody quote their poems and sing their songs. And a play, we did lots of little plays. That was for the community, that was for the community.

Rubo: What social events if any were centered around school?

Rubarts: Well usually the school buildings were a place for the parents to have revivals or Sunday school on Sundays, of course. And, then they used the building for a family get together. That was about the main things.

Rubo: Do you remember any box or pie suppers?

Rubarts: Oh yes. I've attended many of a pie supper.

Rubo: Tell me about them.

Rubarts: The last one I guess that I really attended was the one that my husband's friends made him pay forty some dollars for my pie. And we hadn't dated but a time or two, but they all teased him because he was, I was 24 years of age, really I was 23 then, and he was 47 and he was so much older than I was. Why they all picked at him because he was dating me. And so of course I took a pie, it wasn't to my school, but it was to a friend's school and out on east 80. So Ray's friends got heads together, and they kept running that pie up, and poor man, I don't guess he had much more than that in his pocket. They made him pay for his, forty some dollars for that pie. And then, as I said a minute ago, they would hold revivals and things in the school buildings.

Rubo: What was the typical price for the boxes of pies or?

Rubarts: Pie, well most of them would run from five to six dollars or something like that. That would be... but we'd decorate them with crate paper and put artificial flowers and roses on top and make them as pretty as we could. That's the way we had of making some money to have to buy things with for the classroom.

Rubo: What school did you first teach at?

Rubarts: My first school was at Bloomington.

Rubo: What's your fondest memory from teaching in that one room school?

Rubarts: Well it wasn't really that much fun, but I, it was something that they didn't forget and I didn't either. I had just married in October, and the school had started in July. And my parents had said all along, parents of the children, do not let them leave the school ground because the school was close to Casey, out to Green River and another creek there, and they were afraid they'd go down and get drown because it was deep water. Well I had a rule, if you leave the school ground you will get a whipping. so one day the boys, and I had 49 in a one room school, with 11 in the first grade. Now that's true and I can show you a picture of that, I guess it's in the book I don't know, I'm not sure. But any way at noon it was habit that all the girls would stay inside and all the boys would go out and sit with their little lunch under a tree and eat. And, so one day and it was in like July or August one, I guess it was near the first of August. They decided that they'd test me, that I couldn't whip 23 boys, is what I had, 23 boys. So where we were in the building eating our lunch, the boys were outside. They'd slip off and go down to Green River. Which is about a little over a half a mile from the school building. And about the time they all got out of site, one little girl was outside and there was no boys.

She came running back in and said "oh Ms. Minnie, the boys have left the ground." And of course the eighth grade girls is all excited about "Can you whip that many?", I said, "Try me and see if I can." So they went out and they gathered me a handful of little switches. I'll never forget it. And when the boys came back in at one o'clock, I told the girls, I said girls stay in your seat we're going to go ahead and finish our lesson just like every one of the boys are in the class. And when I get through with the lesson, then I'll take care of the boys. So when I got through with Language unit, when I go through I said boys begin a line right here on this wall and each of you, and end right down at the wall. and I went over and got this hand full of switches and I'd take one, course I didn't leave any marks on them, but I scared them to death. And, so I began with the little fellow first, I just gave him a little lick. Next one I gave him a little harder one and so forth. When I got to those eight grade boys, I put some muscle with those because they knew better. I whipped every one of them because the parents had told me and they used the word whoop them, whoop them if they got. So I had whooped them as the parents had told me to do. But they did it for fun and do, was testing me to see if I'd do it. But I loved those kids and the parents were the sweetest things in the world. The parents were behind me one hundred percent.

Rubo: Did you teach the same things to your students that you were taught in school?

Rubarts: I, except I would add more to it. I had had more training then the, those teachers had. I had to more to do with, I had better material and I was making a little money and I spent about half of what I made on buying things and taking them back to the school.

Rubo: What church did your family attend?

Rubarts: Well my father grew up in the Methodist church. And my mother grew up in a Presbyterian church here in Columbia. So, I joined the Christian church, because there was a Christian church at Egypt which was half way between my father's church and my mother's church. But I didn't, that's where I attended because it was close. But, in 1933, during the depression time, my father had a grocery store and a restaurant here off the square. This very, off the square. So when I was fifteen years of age I joined the Columbia Christian Church and I've been there ever since.

Rubo: What are some typical songs sang in your church?

Rubarts: Of course, How Great Thou Art is always good and just the general, all the Christian songs, I mean all the common, Trust and Obey and same old songs. Plus, course now we have nice big choir and a music director and we have a organ and piano. So all the best of music.

Rubo: Describe a typical revival meeting.

Rubarts: Typical, in our church? Well we have a guest minister. And then of course the choir and I have been a choir, I'm not in it right now. But I was for years and so was my husband. And now we have a visiting minister every year for our revival. But our church is highly organized, and we have a committee that arranges tours for us. The ones of us that one to go, we just come from Louisville, from the South Eastern Christian Church. Twelve of us went down this week and enjoyed the four thousand, one hundred and seventy two I believe that was in the temple. That was a wonderful day. We left at six o'clock and got back real late. And right now we're raising money for expansion, we're adding a

large unit to our church, our church is quite old, but it's beautiful and course it's well organized. And we have a fine minister who's been with us for some time. And Brother White has his doctorate degree and I hope he stays with us until he retires. He's probably in the upper 50's or maybe early 60's, somewhere in there.

Rubo: How is church different now then it was when you were a child?

Rubarts: Its a, well back when I was a child, well they had tent meetings in the community all the time. And they'd hold these revivals and that was the denomination was know as the Brethren Christ, but none of my family was in, we attended the meetings and enjoyed the sermons and the good music and everything, lots of singing, but Dad of course was a Methodist and Mother attended with the family. She never attended Presbyterian here in Columbia. After that other one, just to visit. And then she joined with him.

Rubo: Have you ever attended a Brush Arbor meeting?

Rubarts: No I haven't.

Rubo: Where were baptizings held?

Rubarts: In the creeks or rivers. Now here, of course in Columbia I was baptized, really I was baptized in a Christian church in Campbellsville. Cause at the time when I joined back in 33 our church did not have the Baptistry unit. So they took us to Campbellsville after the revival and I was baptized over there. Of course now we have our own facilities.

Rubo: Describe a typical baptizing?

Rubarts: Well, they would meet at the hole, they referred to it as baptizing, where they baptized people, was most of the time was near what they called a Blue Hole, and it was a deeper water. And they'd gather at the side and have a short sermon or comments. And then they would take them in, one of course at a time there'd be two people there. But the one minister would baptize them but the other was there just in case a foot slipped or something went wrong, for security. And then he'd bring them out. Now the Brethren Christ baptized, they emerged them three times, in the name of the Father, Son, and the Holy Ghost, and it was Christian churches just one time.

Rubo: Describe the interior of the Giles Cabin if you can.

Rubarts: I haven't been in it since it's been redone. Evelyn ought to give you very much detail on that.

Rubo: Can you describe the outside?

Rubarts: Well it was a regular old school house. And really I wouldn't want to attempt to describe it.

Rubo: Can you tell me about the Giles' life styles or standard of living in comparison with the rest of the community?

Rubarts: Are you talking about Janice Holt Giles?

Rubo: Yes.

Rubarts: Undoubtedly, I hate to say this but honestly I have not appreciated everything that Janice Holt Giles has written in her books. Now I know that there was some very bad conditions in the county during her early days of our county, but I think she put to much emphasis on the poor conditions, when really it wasn't all that bad. Now I can remember

quite well when I was making a home visits. And I remember I was a counselor. At that time I was a truant officer and the superintendent and I had our office down here in the courthouse on the square. and I visited all of the schools, I had 108 at one time. And I visited all the schools and my job besides record was to go visit into the homes and convince the parents that they didn't have shoes or clothes I'd find them for them and take them to them. And all that section up in where Janice Holt Giles has written so much about there was some bad condition I grant to you. Cause one place I went one time and....

End Of Side One

Begin Side Two

Rubarts: When I went up to visit the home. Why, when I got near the front there was no doors on the house. I mean no screen doors on the house. The door was wide open, it was in the summer time. The chickens was all over the porch, and you wouldn't believe it she was sitting right out there with the children on the side of the porch, and there was a chicken standing in the middle of her table. And that was bad, that was the worse thing I had ever seen in all my visits, but now that's just an exception. There was many of a fine clean home. But I carried clothes, and arranged for them to get food at different places, because there was a few bad, but the whole county wasn't like that. And I kind of resented some of the cretinism, or I took it like that. But she was a wonderful person. But to her I guess it was bad, and maybe she only saw the bad things and not a lot of good.

Rubo: What were some of the occasions that called for guests at your house while you were growing up?

Rubarts: You mean at my house, some of my visitors? Well our family, I'm not bragging, but we were one of the top class, if there was a top class. We were born that way. And my father was a fine looking young man and so was my mother. And mother had been treated, remember she came from a family where there were dentists. And Dad's family were outstanding. And Granddad was one that always had a bow tie on or something like that. And so we had good background. But it was a depression time, money was hard to get, but we never went hungry at no time in our life. And we made our own clothes, and Mother was good with needles. We did lots of quilting and all those things. And I began sewing when I could hardly see the top of the sewing machine. We had a good living, and our family would get together regularly. We would have family reunions and all of them would come in. Mother had two, one full sister and one half sister and one half brother. And Dad was from a family of eight, and all of them were successful people, every one of them.

Rubo: What kinds of things happened while entertaining?

Rubarts: Entertain? Well .. We always, Grandmother Corbin would always take the lead, she was a great Bible person and a big old Bible. She always read the Bible and we would all come in. We'd go every year for their birthdays, this was a regular, birthdays, was a family reunion type thing. And back then the old roads were so bad we had to go in road wagons. And we'd carry our food in winter, summer. I recall one time we went, the snow was so deep, that the team could hardly pull the wagon. Because the snow was like

12 to 18 inches deep or it would drift at places. But, we'd gather up and everybody took food. And there were a few pictures made then not very many, but a few were.

[Rubarts then pulls out a large photograph of her great grandparents]

And to show you a little something, what my great grandparents looked like, I'll show you there pictures. Now there real old, and I had forgot I had them until just yesterday and I ran across them. But, even back in those days they'd try. See their little eyes and their little round glasses. And of course this one is pretty faded, too. And I forgot about, I guess I'm about the oldest one of the family and they had given them to me. And I had put them away and actually forgot about them until yesterday. But, we were great in conversation. Someone was always telling what happened to the family and who the children had married and kept up. And we still have our reunions.

Rubo: What did the children do at the reunions?

Rubarts: They would play games. A lot of the times, what you call drop the handkerchief, I guess. They formed a ring and took hands, and they'd run around. And it was tag I guess, and drop the handkerchief behind somebody. And then they'd chase around and tag them. And I'd forgot about that. That was one of the things, that's usually what the cousins would do, the little fellows. I think you call that tag or something like that.

Rubo: What did other people in the community think of the Giles?

Rubarts: Of the Giles. Well of course, all the people in the community were proud of them, because they had brought attention into that section of their county. And so they were proud of them and they were nice, loving people. But I'm afraid Janet only saw

some bad sides, she didn't see all the good that was going on in the community. because there was lovely, lovely, highly respected people.

Rubo: Do you know of any social or community events that the Giles attended?

Rubarts: No I don't. I don't know them that well.

Rubo: What contributions did the Giles make to the Knifley community?

Rubarts: Well of course it gave them a spot light. A state in national recognition that had never been known. And the books have sold quite well. But at the same time it was kind of a joke. Some of them knew better.

Rubo: Prior to the publication of their books, do you know of Henry as being recognized with the community as a storyteller or?

Rubarts: Well, I didn't know him that well. He was just a good citizen, and he was in the service and served his country well.

Rubo: Do you know how many black residents live in or around the Knifley area?

Rubarts: Quite a few. There was a black school.

Rubo: Describe race relations across the years between whites and blacks.

Rubarts: Well you know, your touching on a long story now. At that time, when we had the integration, I was in the superintendent's office. Harvey Walker and I were the only two taking care of the school system, plus the board members. So I was visiting the black high school, and Annie Walker had the black school up at Knifley. There was a black school up in that community. And I thought a lot of Annie and I visited her school and she did a fine job. Very dedicated and no problem what so ever, just routine to see if she needed anything. And to check on the attendance to be sure they were in good

attendance, because we were paid on percentage then, some on money. But I had gone out to the high school, which is out here off of well, just 61 just right off the square you might say, to the black high school. And I came back and I told Mr. Walker, the superintendent, unless they do something that building is going to burn down. Because all the heat they had was a tall pot belly stove. And the wall was a little old narrow ceiling, I would say within 20 inches of the stove. And it was winter time and it was cold, and of course the kids were gathered around it. I thought I could smell something like paint or something. So I walked over and touched my hand on the ceiling, wall ceiling, behind the stove, and it was almost hot enough to burn my hand. And I came back and I told Mr. Walker, that buildings going to burn down. I said that stove is heating that wall, and it's too close to it. So in the next two or three days, somewhere real close, I don't remember exact how many days it was, up it went the smoke. So the black people had no place to attend school. That was the high school group. So only thing we could do, course we had a new high school unit out here and they of course wanted to go to the white high school. So only thing we could do was to say yes, and there was a few hot headed people that didn't want the blacks in the school. I had one board member especially that fought it very hard. In fact, they had to hold him, he was about to fight down on the square over it. Anyway, it ended up in court. So I took the records, records of the number of students took my teacher register showing them how many black students we had in the Jacklyn High School and also how many was enrolled in the white high school, which is just a half a mile away. Not over that. So I went before with the principal of the high school, and Mr. Walker, who was superintendent at that time, and Irene Reese, and Joe Janes and I

went to Louisville before the court. And I swore under oath that the black kids did not have a high school in the county to attend. And it was under my oath that the judge ruled they have right to go to the white high school. Well I didn't know what type of reaction I'd get, but you know I really didn't have a bit of trouble. It integrated with the greatest of ease. The white kids were so excited, they just thought they was precious. And I tell you the black kids became more popular than the white ones did there for a little while. They just loved them. Of course I was out there with them all the time. And everything went fine.

Rubo: What is the worst relationship that you know of between black and white?

Rubarts: Well I guess the worst was the board member that got in a fight over them being integrated. And really that was the only thing we had. But he has realized he made a mistake.

Rubo: Were there any ever lynchings that you know of?

Rubarts: No, nothing like that.

Rubo: Who buried the black people?

Rubarts: Who what?

Rubo: Who buried the black people when they died?

Rubarts: Well, funeral homes just like anybody else. If they wanted it, and we knew about it, any one of us, everything was integrated. When the school was, everything else was. There was no problem. Highly respected.

Rubo: Were the cemeteries?

Rubarts: Well most of them had their own cemeteries all ready. They had their own churches. However, we do exchange, every once and awhile why our church... We have a community choir, we go out to the black church and sing. And they're invited into ours. And we did have a black boy that attended our church all the time. But now they've gotten so they, they like their own thing. But there's no problem whatsoever, never has been.

Rubo: Compare race relations now with back then.

Rubarts: There was just that one incident like I said. Other than that we've never had any. Never.

Rubo: What old timey remedies do you or your family and friends still use?

Rubarts: You talking about health, medical? Probably the number one of course was, they always had aspirins, or something they called aspirins similar to it. We were a great believer in apple juice and things like that. Really ain't nothing special. But of course we've always had doctors, we had Dr. Flowers here for years and years, Dr. Adcuss. Good doctors, medical doctors.

Rubo: What are signs you've heard of which tell a death will soon occur?

Rubarts: Usually when the fingernails get pail, and you see no circulation. Is usually the first thing you notice.

Rubo: What customs with regards to burial have changed during your life time?

Rubarts: Changing. They used to make the caskets, boxes. And line them with the quilts and soft things, cotton, then we grew cotton. And that was used a lot to pad them, to make them soft. That's about it, they made lots of boxes, caskets back in my early years.

Rubo: What customs with regard to burial have remained constant over the years?

Rubarts: Well it was always better pattern to remember the deceased with the honor and the outstanding contributions to the community that they have made. And usually the minister will recall. Usually the minister is that person's minister that's deceased. They usually recall good deeds that they can think of that has happened. But the families all come in very undedicated and heart broken. Always been that way.

Rubo: What was the most memorable funeral you attended and why?

Rubarts: Well, of course would be my parents, would be the most. And then, I had a brother that died with a heart attack and that was a big shock. But our whole family, on both sides were very loving, caring and we all kept in contact with each other. And every year we have a family reunion. And my brother, one of my brothers lives on the home place now. In fact, he bought the rest of us out. And he has the three hundred and some acre farm out there. And, so he had the whole Corbin reunion last summer. And we'll have it again out there at the old home place. And the original house that I was born in that was built by the slaves. And they made brick on the farm. And the ceilings were 20 foot and the base boards were 20 inch base boards, a big wide yellow poplar. And I still have one board from the old home in my garage loft that I keep. One of these days I may have something made out of it. But anyway back in those days they were plastered, and it was a big old house. But Dad then finally had to tare that down and he replace it with a big brick house. So, one of the grandsons lives in that house. And Junior, A. B. Corbin Junior, built his own brick house on down on this south side of the farm. And he has three boys and one daughter. And there all out there near the farm. The daughter has her

home, Junior cut off some of the land and gave her some land and she built her own home out there, she and her husband. And the other boys built on the farm. So we still have a big Corbin farm. Beautiful. And the boys have contract with UK horse farms and they have these big trucks and they not only take care of their straw and wheat and everything else on the farm to Lexington, but they go and pick up bales of hay, loads of hay from Ohio, Indiana, and everywhere. And this week there both up in Ohio, with the big trucks bringing in hay. They have a contract with the horse people in Lexington.

Rubo: How much does your attitude or outlook on life affect your ability to deal with being sick.

Rubarts: Being sick. Well, I tell you, I try to live daily. As if, if I were the other person I try to do to others as I'd like for them to do to me. I've been able to be very sociable. I've been, I guess, in a leadership role all my life. I've been president of everything you can name, Woman's Club, DAR region, supervisor, guidance counselor for twenty some years. And I have no problem in public relation, never did. And I do lots of entertaining, I go to Washington with DAR in research. I've been in research for a long time. And this will be the fourth year, I'll be leaving in April to Washington DC for a whole week.

There's a bus loads of us go. And I've have been asked and have committed myself again this time to serve at a registration table and a sales table where they sell certain things on behalf of DAR to handle the money box. I'm going to do it again, I've already agreed to do it again. And I'll be going to the [unintelligible] in Lexington in 14 of March, I believe its the 14, 14,15 of March. I already have a reservations at Wilson Inn and that's a four day thing for the state convention, before we go into Washington. So, course in the

Woman's club and I've agreed to serve as first vice president for the Woman's club. I've been president so many times, I said no I wouldn't take it again. But they had problems getting someone to, and they said well will you take the first vice president and I said well I'll consider that. So I got that responsibility, plus all the other things.

Rubo: What about your childhood, do you think most molded what you are today.

Rubarts: Well I give my credit for character and dedication, I would say to help my parents more. Being the oldest, I was looked upon as being held responsible for the younger brothers and sisters. See there was eight children born, one little sister died when she was three months old. But the oldest child was the brother and Elvin was not a strong kid. He was always spoilt, maybe Mother spoilt him more, but he was sick, he was never very stout when he was born. And here I was, just as brave as I could be and stout and had all the energy and of course Dad thought I hung the moon. One thing I'll never forget when I was three years of age, and that's when I was three years of age now. Mother was in the bed with a new baby. We had a big long table, dining room table, that Dad had made out of dressed he'd sanded down, dressed table. And he had me standing up in a chair at the end of that table with Mother's big blue crock bowl with my little hands making the biscuits. And he'd tell me, now squeeze that, and back then the lard was hard and cold and it was hard to get it soft. My little hands would just squeeze at that lard. I got my bowl to close to the end of the table and down on the floor it went. It broke to pieces. Well that I can vouch was my first oldest memory, was when I was three years of age. Anyway I'd always had the leading role. I was healthy as I could be, always have

been, been blessed with good health. But work won't kill you, I guarantee you that. May
make you tired sometimes, but it won't kill you.

Rubo: That's all. Thanks.

Rubarts: Well thank you for coming by and if I've helped you any, be glad to assist you
any way I can.

End Of Side Two