

Everett Porter June 8, 1978 (s/o Alex, s/o Andrew J. Porter) Track 7 (Enterprise, KY)

Scott: That roof up there, do you remember that?

JC: **Everett Porter**, June 8, 1978

Scott: That roof at **Arabelle's (Porter Walker**, d/o Alex, s/o AJP) house?

Everett: I've been over there different times.

Scott: I remember I was over there one day you was in there working on it.

Ethyl: He said you remembered him and his Dad (**Ed Porter**, s/o Everett, s/o Jasper, s/o Alex, s/o AJP) and them fixing Arabelle's house.

Everett: Not to my knowledge.

JC: Have you ever seen me before?

Everett: I've been up there at Everett's (**Everett Porter**, s/o Jasper, s/o Alex, s/o AJP) and you would be running around in the back yard, at the garage.

JC: Oh really?

Ethyl: This is Ed's boy.

JC: Ya, I'm Don's boy. (**Don Porter**, s/o Everett, s/o Jasper, s/o Alex, s/o AJP)

Everett: Well this is the one that run around there.

Ethyl: (To Scott) Last time I saw you, you was a little bitty thing. How old are you?

Scott: 19

Ethyl: You are getting old.

Everett: **Don (Porter)** put up that show out there at the valley. Got pretty well acquainted. Don is the awful lest case ever was. He had a truck and a lot of old junk and stuff, they was putting up that show. That there feller at Olive Hill. I can't think of people's names like I used to. He was a little deputy. Don stopped out there at James' store at the foot of the hill. That feller got to nosing up, he said, "You can look, but don't you touch it. Don't you touch a thing" (laughing) He wouldn't allow him to touch a thing. He didn't have nothing but just old antique junk...

Ethyl: You said you want to turn on that tape recorder, I want to hear it and listen.

JC: Oh, I'm recording him.

Ethyl: Oh you are recording what he is saying?

JC: Ya, I'm recording him.

Ethyl: Oh. (Car peals out)

JC: You've got neighbors like that?

Everett: They are crazy over here.

Ethyl: No honey, they generally do awful bad on this creek. He is alright. (alright)

Everett: I rode with \_\_\_\_\_ somewhere along here. They would stop that. They race from right up there, the worst place in the country to race.

Scott: Oh is that where they race at? I knew they raced over here somewhere.

Everett: You can't see over that curve yonder, up over that raise. They let the water come out, they put a bridge in and had to raise the road to let the water through there. They will go right side by side up through there.

JC: How old are you now, 88?

Everett: Huh?

JC: Are you 85 or 88?

Everett: Don't say 88.

JC: Oh, you're not that old? (laughing)

Everett: I'm 85 past, since the 12<sup>th</sup> of December.

JC: We talked to Ed Oney in Ashland, and he is 88.

Everett: He was looking at me and thought I was 88.

Scott: He told me on the way up here that you was 88. I don't know where he got that at.

JC: I knew 85 or 88. I didn't know which.

Everett: 85 last December the 12<sup>th</sup>.

JC: Dec. 12<sup>th</sup>?

Everett: Ya.

Ethyl: You know he will soon be an antique if I can just keep him a little bit longer. (laughing)

Everett: I went to Doc Lewis down here at Olive Hill. The nurse wrote down 80, that's when I was 80 years old. Doc picked it up, "80 \_\_\_\_\_" (laughing). Just guessed that I'd live till I was 90.

JC: Do you know anything about your grandpa? (**Andrew Porter**)

Everett: Huh?

JC: Do you know anything about your grandpa? Do you remember him?

Everett: Never did see him.

JC: You saw your grandmother sometime didn't you? You would have been, you don't remember your grandmother Porter? (**Lucy Cornett Porter**) The tombstone says she died in 1899. (actually 1879) So you would have been 6 or 7 years old then wouldn't you?

Everett: I didn't know anything until about 15. (laughing)

Ethyl: No, he wasn't that old when his mother died.

JC: (3:55) How old was he?

Ethyl: I don't know, but he wasn't that old. He was about 2 or 3 wasn't you, when your mother (**Laura Fulton Porter**) died? I heard **Erma Lewis**? (d/o Wint, s/o Alex, s/o AJP) say that he was about 3 years old when his mother died, I don't know.

Everett: She died in (18)94.

JC: She died in September 1894? Oh that is your mother.

Everett: I wouldn't have been two years old till the 12<sup>th</sup> of December.

JC: Who was your dad's 2<sup>nd</sup> wife?

Everett: Her maiden name?

JC: Ya.

Everett: **Jessie**.

JC: What was her first name?

Ethyl: Liz. His daddy's 2<sup>nd</sup> wife was named **Liz**.

Everett: Oh, you talking about my dad's 2<sup>nd</sup> wife?

JC: Ya.

Everett: Oh, she was a Stewart.

JC: Liz Stewart?

Everett: **Lizzie Stewart.**

JC: Who was the Jessie then?

Everett: Huh?

JC: Who was the Jessie you were talking about?

Everett: Oh, that was my 2<sup>nd</sup> wife. (laughing)

JC: Oh.

Ethyl: Your 2<sup>nd</sup> wife was a Stevens.

Everett: I've just nearly lost my hearing. I talk this way, but sometimes I couldn't hear a word they said. I just got to get up and walk out. I just can't understand.

JC: His 3<sup>rd</sup> wife was Katie Brown, right?

Everett: Huh?

JC: Katie Brown was his 3<sup>rd</sup> wife? Your dad's 3<sup>rd</sup> wife?

Everett: No, she was a Jessie, married a Stevens.

JC: No, your dad's 3<sup>rd</sup> wife.

Ethyl: She was a Coffee.

JC: A Coffee?

Everett: Ya, she was **Jim Coffee's** girl.

Ethyl: Kate, she married a **Manning**, and he died, then she married **Alick Porter**.

Everett: She never married a Manning, she married a Pelfrey.

Ethyl: A Pelfrey I mean.

Everett: Her sister married a Manning.

JC: So his 1<sup>st</sup> wife was **Laura Fulton**, your mom.

Everett: Ya.

JC: His 2<sup>nd</sup> wife was **Liz Coffee**?

Ethyl: No Liz, I don't know who she was. Liz was her name, but who was she?

Everett: Stewart. Might have been that she married a Stewart. He never got to start? (6:28)

JC: How long were they married? His 2<sup>nd</sup> wife and him?

Everett: Oh several years. I can't recollect when they married.

JC: And then they got a divorce?

Everett: And then he married Kate, well she was **Kate Coffee**.

JC: Kate Coffee.

Everett: She married **John**, no a **Pelfrey**. Had seven children, and then me and **Charlie (Porter)**, **Sam (Porter)** was home. Right smart in the house? (7:02) (laughing)

JC: We found your dad's will in the courthouse over there you know.

Everett: Huh?

JC: We found your dad's will in the county courthouse. His will he wrote.

Everett: Did he vote?

Ethyl: He found your dad's will in the courthouse, he said. I told you he couldn't hear.

Everett: I never did see it.

JC: Ya, he just left to **Irene (Porter)**, **Herman (Porter)** & **Harlan (Porter)**. That's all he willed anything to.

Everett: Ya,

JC: How's come?

Everett: Well that was his last wife.

JC: Oh, was she pretty domineering? Did she kind of rule the household?

Everett: She didn't have nothing.

JC: She didn't?

Everett: Her daddy had right smart. But he heard about it that my dad aimed to give all of it to them kids. They was kin to him you see. He was their grandpa. Big ole man, little billy goat beard sticking out there. He said, "They'll not get nothing that I've got." So he had a daughter that lives on Greenbriar. He turned it over to her. He died around there, Greenbriar.

One of the girls around there, **Polly Manning**, Kate went around there. I think he died with his clothes on. He was in bed, and he carried his money right in his pocket. Them kids told that Kate begin to roll him around looking for his pocket book. Said Mom done beat you to it. She done robbed

him. (laughing)

JC: She was a pretty wild woman huh?

Everett: Ya, she was looking ahead.

Ethyl: She took care of him. She is the one that ought to have had it. She took care of him. He was at her house and she took care of him.

Everett: The old man be lying to himself? (9:19). I heard that he was aimed to give it to her anyway. But they didn't wait till he was gone to get it?

JC: Did you ever see your grandparents, the Fultons? **Henry Fulton**, your mom's parents?

Everett: No, I never did. They was some that come up a kin to them. I had an Aunt, **Martha Day**. I forget what her husband's name was. Never did see him. Seen her. She come up in here, brought **Floyd (Day)** and some of the girls, after they was grown. But they grewed up in the Poor House, Orphan's Home in Louisville, and they took the mother in to take care of them. Made it work out pretty nice.

JC: I wonder where the Fulton's were from. Were they from Carter County? Your mom, was she from Carter County?

Everett: No.

JC: Where was she from?

Everett: She was from down in below Flemingsburg.

JC: Flemingsburg, Fleming County. She was from Fleming County?

Everett: No, it was beyond Fleming.

JC: Robertson County?

Everett: Robertson.

JC: She was from Robertson County?

Everett: Ya.

JC: How about that. **Andrew Porter** bought land, he lived in Robertson County for a while. Your grandfather and all of his family lived there with him. **Alexander (Porter)** lived there with him. I had a feeling they (Fultons) might have been from there.

Everett: (11:00) My father, come from Old Virginia. You've seen that "Wagon Train" on television?

JC: Ya.

Everett: I think of what my daddy (**Alex Porter**, s/o AJP) would tell about them coming from Old Virginia. That's the way they come, in the wagon. And just stop along side of the road. Had a little tent I reckon. Had a covered wagon. Had cows, hogs. Up there at Prestonsburg, (they) had to cross Little Sandy.

JC: Oh they came through Prestonsburg did they?

Everett: Uh huh. At **Little Sandy** they just had one of these flats. Have you ever seen one of them? They had one of them up this side of Flemingsburg to cross this creek over here at Morehead.

JC: Oh, a sort of Ferry?

Everett: Ya, a Ferry. They would keep it tied up there. I know there was a feller that lived right out from there. If you couldn't operate it, he would come out and put you across. Wagon, or car, whatever it was. He would go over there and untie that rope. It would take right off and shoot you right up the road. (laughing) (12:10)

JC: But you don't remember your grandpa (**Andrew Porter**) being a preacher?

Everett: Nuh Huh (No) Now Uncle **Steve (Porter)**, I recollect him very well.

JC: You had an Uncle named **John (Porter)** did you?

Everett: Ya.

JC: Was he the youngest?

Everett: Ya.

JC: James was the last one, then there was John. Jim was the youngest other than John? Were there any others younger than Jim?

Everett: Uncle **Jim (Porter)** got killed in 1906.

JC: Ya.

Everett: And I don't know too much about him, his family. Now **Andy (Porter)**, I knowed him better than any of them. He stayed up around in our country after he got grown.

JC: Andy?

Everett: Uh Huh.

JC: Was he your Uncle?

Everett: 1<sup>st</sup> cousin.

JC: Oh, who his dad?

Everett: Uncle Jim.

JC: Oh, Jim was his dad?

Everett: They was raised at **Stark**.

JC: Stark. Where is that?

Everett: Well it is beyond **Beartown**. The road to **Sandy Hook**.

Scott: Elliott County?

JC: Oh it is Elliott County?

Everett: Ya, it is in Elliott County.

JC: Did you have an Aunt named **Emma (Porter)**?

Everett: Ya, he got killed at Sandy Hook.

JC: No, an Aunt named Emma?

Scott: An Aunt. One of your aunts named Emma?

Everett: I've heard of em. One named Mary and one named **Martha (Day)**.

JC: Let's see. I've got it written down here. Let me find it real quick.

Everett: Aunt **Mary Dwelly**. Aunt Mary married **George Dwelly**.

JC: Let's see, you had, there was **Levi (Porter)**.

Everett: Huh?

JC: Levi was the oldest Uncle, right? Jane, Elizabeth, Martha, Steve....

Everett: Now I knowed Martha, seen her, but them others I never saw them.

JC: There was a Cena, CENA.

Everett: I never knowed her either.

JC: Then Alexander, Alick, your dad.

Everett: Who?

JC: You Dad Alick. Your dad was one of them. Andrew's children. These are all Andrew's children. And Mary, and Jim.

Everett: She is the one that married **George Dwelly**. I've seen her, a great big woman. That don't make no difference how big she was. (laughing) She lived in Robertson County.

JC: Robertson County?

Everett: Ya, Robertson.

JC: Huh. Then you say there was a John.

Everett: Ya, he lived right up, joined farms to my dad.

JC: Was his middle name C? John C?

Everett: Ya.

JC: **John C. Porter**?

Everett: J.C. There was another...

JC: There was two **John C. Porter's** around here wasn't there?

Everett: That was my first wife's father, come from Elliott County. **John W. (Porter)** was his name.

Scott: First wife's father.

JC: Well around here in Carter County wasn't there two **John C. Porters**, or do you know of another one?

Everett: There was a little John C. and they called him J. C. lived on Clark Hill.

JC: Then this other John C. was your Uncle?

Everett: Ya. That wasn't no kin down there, that I know of.

JC: And you had an Aunt named Emma? Do you remember an Aunt Emma?

Everett: Emma?

JC: Ya.

Everett: I didn't know her either. I knowed Mary, Martha. Mary married **George Dwelly**. **Martha** married a **Day**. That is the one that went the Poor House, Orphan's Home with her kids.

JC: How come?

Everett: Her man died and she had a great big bunch of kids and couldn't raise them.

JC: Why didn't the rest of the Porter family take care of them?

Everett: They moved down towards Louisville somewhere.

JC: Down where?

Everett: Way down towards Louisville somewhere.

JC: Oh. Towards Louisville?

Everett: Ya.

JC: She married a Day?

Everett: Uh huh. I guess I've heard of his name, but don't know what it was. Are they a biting?  
(laughing)

Scott: A little bit. Not too much.

JC: Where else did **Andrew Porter** your grandpa live. And your dad when he was young? They lived in Robertson County for a while. Then did they sort of move to Elliott County, near Carter County?

Everett: Ya they moved on that Rock Bridge Creek when they come from Robertson. Down there by some cause. They was hunting land cheap. I imagine the coal company bought them out....

JC: In Robertson?

Everett: No, in Old Virginia.

JC: Oh. No, we went there, and it is real beautiful farm land there. It is real nice. He owned 1300 and some acres, your grandpa did in Virginia. (actually 262 acres) He just sold out and left. He was 40 some years old, and he just sold out and left. He had nine...

Scott: It was real nice looking land.

JC: It was beautiful.

Scott: Big farms.

Everett: Well I never was up there, that far. I've been to West Virginia, but I never was to Old Virginia.

JC: Ya it was beautiful. The only reason we could figure out why he sold out, was that he was a preacher.

Everett: (17:38) There was a whole country of them that formed a wagon train, sort of like that on television. Some were driving the hogs and the cows. I started to tell you while ago, they come to that Ferry up there at, uh...

JC: Prestonsburg?

Everett: Ya, up there. Old cow she walked out on the thing, (18:07) looking this way and that way.

She come to the end, she just give it a jump as far as she could go. Round and round and under she went. (laughing) She raised a swimming and every last one of em done the same thing.

JC: All the cows did that huh?

Everett: Wasn't the same thing, but done something like it. They went to the front and jumped off.

Scott: Did they swim across?

Everett: Ya they swum, but the wagons pulled on that (Ferry), but the cattle, they swum. They didn't know what that thing was for. They was scared. A feller couldn't camp along the road now like they did then. Wouldn't live the first night through.

JC: Did you ever hear of any Cornetts coming with them when they came from Virginia?

Everett: What?

JC: Cornetts?

Everett: Oh we was kin to them.

JC: Ya, your grandmother was a **Cornett**. I thought maybe one of her brothers and their family might have came with them.

Everett: I just don't know much about that. I wished after that I had asked my daddy more about it.

JC: Ya me too. (laughing)

Everett: I've studied lots of things that I'd like to find out about, but I can't. I'm the oldest one there is left. **Harlan (Porter)** is next to me. He's a half-brother.

JC: You are our great-great uncle. (repeat twice) Is that right, or great-great-great? Just great-great, two greats.

Everett: Jasper was my brother.

JC: Ya, he was our great grandpa, so you would be our great-great uncle. What was **Jasper (Porter)** like?

Everett: Huh?

JC: What was Jasper like, what kind of man was he?

Everett: Ha ha. Of course he was a good man, he was a Porter. (laughing) Jas was a man that was always jolly. You would never catch him with the blues. He'd be talking or laughing about something or another, nearly every time you met him. Some wouldn't be that way. Out in the blues we called it. Jas hardly ever had the blues.

JC: What was your dad like?

Everett: Huh?

JC: What was your dad like? What kind of man was your dad?

Everett: (Laughing) Well he was more still turned. My mother I couldn't tell you about her. Just got hearsay. I liked from September to December being two years old when she died.

JC: What did she die from?

Everett: On **Rock Bridge Creek**.

JC: Why did she die, what disease?

Everett: Oh what disease?

JC: Ya.

Everett: Old **Doc Logan**, he lived right down here in Enterprise. He says "Quick Consumption."

JC: What's that?

Everett: Well it's uh, it's just too much cold in a way.

JC: Oh, it's probably pneumonia maybe.

Everett: It settled in her lungs. Don't think it was catching. More like pneumonia, double pneumonia.

JC: Was Alexander a good man, your dad?

Everett: Huh?

JC: Was your dad a good man?

Everett: Ya, he got to be pretty good. (laughing)

Ethyl: Don't you know that everybody thinks their daddy is the best man in the world.

Everett: I couldn't brag about him being so good in his younger days.

JC: Why is that?

Everett: Different things. (laughing)

JC: Oh he did some bad things when he was younger huh?

Everett: Huh?

JC: He did some bad things when he was younger huh?

Everett: He drunk some liquor. Went to... Uncle **Levi (Porter)** and Uncle **Jim (Porter)**, they was whiskey drinkers.

JC: They were?

Everett: Oh ya.

JC: But Steve turned out to be a preacher? (22:15) Your Uncle **Steve (Porter)**, s/o AJP was a preacher wasn't he?

Everett: Oh ya. Uncle **John (Porter, s/o AJP)** tried it. He never done much good at it.

JC: Tried preaching?

Everett: Ya, he tried to preach. His wife died, 1918, during that flu. He took old **Marshall Adkins'** woman, Uncle John did. That was about his last sermon. (laughing) Everett was Jas' driver in the car. Uncle John moved on Henderson Branch, bought some property, him & old **Martha Jane**. And she had left and went back to Hogg Town, old Martha did. That is where he got her at.

JC: Where's that? What town is that?

Everett: That is Elliottsville, Hoggtown it used to be called. Well he come up to Jas' and told Jas, "I want to hire you to go over to Hoggtown to get my wife." He (**Jasper Porter**) didn't know that he'd stole her. So, him and Everett went. They went over there and they run onto her right along.

JC: Our grandpa **Everett (Porter)** went? (s/o Jasper, s/o Alex, s/o AJP)

Everett: Oh Ya.

JC: And his dad Jasper?

Everett: He was Jas' driver. They was coming along down, and they met old Marshall. He was an old tall raw boned feller. Uncle John got down between them seats. He had a little satchel in there. He had what they call a shooting iron in that. For he did not know whether Jas would have much sympathy. Jas didn't understand him. He said he would have never went if he knew he had to go over there if there would maybe be war. He thought he was just going over there after her, no trouble. They just kept a driving. I don't know whether old Marshall recognized them. Uncle John went down in between the seats. They was in the back. (25:00)

JC: Do you remember when your grandma died? (**Lucy Cornett Porter**)

Everett: Huh Uh. (no)

JC: You don't? Well the tombstone says she died in 1899. (Actually says 1879) So you would have been 7 years old.

Everett: I was born the last month in 92.

Ethyl: Well where was his grandmother buried at, I'd like to know.

JC: They are buried up at Fairview at Porter Creek Cemetery (Just Fairview)

Ethel: His grandma was?

JC: Ya, and so was his grandpa. Their tombstones are up there now.

Everett: Them are homemade tombstones, just out of stone.

JC: They are in pretty good condition.

Everett: Guess they are getting pretty dim now. Uncle **Jim (Porter)**, just right out from it, a marker is all, big square. **Henry Kegley** killed him. \_\_\_\_\_ (25:50) Cut him right in the side there. Over a school.

JC: Who was that?

Everett: Huh?

JC: Who was that?

Everett: That was **Uncle Jim Porter**.

JC: Jim Porter killed him?

Scott: He got killed.

Everett: **Henry Kegley**

JC: Oh, killed Jim Porter.

Everett: Ya.

JC: That was your Uncle?

Everett: Ya. He lived down at Stark. He had two boys that was going to make teachers. **Ed & Andy (Porter)**. Kegley was a school teacher. They got into it in the Sherriff's office over a school somewhere. I just imagine Uncle Jim was a drinking, maybe Kegley too. **Tom Mobley** was Sherriff. He just raised and come at Uncle Jim, or Uncle Jim might have come at him. I just kind of got one side of it you know. Uncle Jim just raised and drewed his chair back, aimed to flatten him with that chair. He just beat him to it. Just went in and stabbed him one time in the side I reckon. Just bled to death right there in the office. Then Ed got killed over at Stark.

JC: Who did?

Everett: **Ed Porter**, that was his (**Jim Porter's**) boy.

JC: Oh, Oh ya. **Ed Porter**, he was born in Ohio.

Everett: Huh?

JC: His son, no that was Levi's oldest son was born in Ohio. **Levi (Porter)**, your Uncle?

Everett: Ya (end of tape) (27:32)