

Tape 32 transcript

June 1978 Interview about Everett & Grace Porter's wedding day

JC: Maybe someday my grandchildren will listen to this.

Grace: Your grandchildren? (laughing) Maybe your children. I don't know about your grandchildren.

There was an awful snow on that day, I know, we liked to have a wreck.

JC: That was January, right?

G: 16th of January

Everett: 1929.

Grace: You got it on there now? (referring to the tape recorder)

JC: Ya.

Grace: (laughing) Ya, we just about went in the ditch. We did go in the ditch didn't we Everett?

Everett: Ya, we went in the ditch (laughing)

JC: was that before you got married?

G: No afterwards, we was on our way back. Everett kept telling them we got a taxi to take us over there, we was on our way back. Laurel's husband, you know, Talmadge Kegley. We told him to slow down, it was slick

E: It was sleeting.

G: We slid twice, I think and went in the ditch and then he said there was some boys walking along the road and he said, "Come here and give us a push and we'll let you ride." They said, "Well we'll give you a push, but we don't want a ride." Said, we don't want a ride. And so they pushed out, and he slowed down.

JC: Where did you get married at?

G: Courthouse at Grayson. My sister went with us, she was a witness and I reckon it was _____ wife was a witness. What was her name, her name was...

JC: They probably have that over there on record then.

E: Oh ya, they've got it on record there. Yes sir.

G: What was her name?

E; What?

G; What was her name as a witness? It's on the marriage certificate.

E: I don't remember. The preacher was Lonnie Deaver

G: Lonnie Deaver was the preacher, but I thought it was Arthur Jarvis' wife.

E: Arthur Jarvis' wife was on there.

G: I believe it was Arthur Jarvis' wife.

JC: When did you two meet?

G: When'd we two meet. (laughing)

G: Oh, about 5 years before that, I guess. 5 year or more.

E: 1924

G: You said you seen me going to school, the first time you ever saw me. (laughing)

E: Seen her coming. I said to Henry Bradley, "Who is that girl?" He said, "That's Steve Erwin's girl." I said, "I'd like to have her for my wife, I believe." That is _____. I never thought about that one.

JC: How old were you then?

G: He would have been about 19, I guess. He was 24 when we was married. He was 24 and I was 22.

JC: Did they get married that old back then. didn't they get married younger?

E: Well, if they could get anybody that would have them, they would get married younger. If they couldn't, they'd have to wait till they were 24, 25. (laughing)
You know, I had to wait.

JC: How long did you date before you got married?

E: About 5 years, I guess.

JC: Oh, you dated all that time.?

G: No, we was quit once. We was quit once for over a year.

JC: What took so long?

G: Some talks longer than others.

E: Back then, you had to walk to see your girl. Did't have no cars to drive in. Walk and wade in mud about halfway to your knees part of the time. Lot different than what it is now. When you come, you had to stay for a right smart bit, because you didn't get to come back for a while. Couldn't see em every night...

JC: How far away did she live?

G: We lived right down here where Opal (McKenzie) lives, course the house burnt, you know.

E: About 2 miles and a half...

G: He lived up Dry Branch. You know where Boone (his brother Boone Porter) lives up there? You don't know where Boone lives. I thought you know'd where Boone Porter lives.

JC: I'm not sure.

G: On up above where Wallace's place was. (Wallace Erwin?)

E: Ya, it's about 2 mile and a half up there, from here. Good old days is a way, and in other ways, they was rough.

E: Had a mule and a salt wagon or we'd walk, and I done a lot of walking. Didn't have the mule or salt wagon, then you'd walk.

JC: You lived over there, where they moved to when they came from Virginia, the Porters?

E: Tick Ridge is where we lived. You mean where our ancestors came from?

JC: Ya, where'd you dad come from?

G: I believe I'll call down there to Ed's and tell them you got here.

E: Johnson county.

JC: Johnson county? Virginia, or Kentucky?

E: I've heard Dad tell about it.

JC: Was it grayson county? Grayson county Virginia?

E: I don't think it was virginina. Seems like it was Johnson county Kentucky.

JC: Did he live there at one time, Johnson county, KY.

E: Who?

JC: Your dad.

E: No.

JC: His dad did?

E: No.

JC: Well who lived in Johnson county KY?

E: I don't know that they ever lived there.

JC: I called Harlan Porter, and he said that they came from Grayson co. VA.

E: Grayson co VA?

JC: Ya

E: Well, he's probably know.

JC: I found them in the census. they lived there in 1850 and 1860 census.

E: Harlan would know more about that than I would.

JC: Andrew Porter had 9 kids in 1860.

E: Andrew Porter, my great grandfather.

JC: I've got some records in here, I'll show them to you.