

ARC
TAPE
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MARTY SPRINGER
1 Tape

Tape recorded interview with Marty Springer conducted in October 2007 on the campus of the University of Wisconsin-Stout. The interviewer is Bill Wickrent. Springer worked as the campus photographer on the University of Wisconsin-Stout for over thirty years prior to his retirement in 2007.

Tape 1/Side 1

BACKGROUND

Marty Springer was born on April 17, 1945. His father owned a sawmill in Illinois. The family later moved to Wisconsin where Marty's father worked as a carpenter. Marty was one of ten children.

MILITARY

Marty spend six years in the air force. Four of those years were spent in Japan where he met his wife. He worked as a photographer while in the service and enjoyed taking photographs of Japan. He first became interested in photography because of a brother who served in that capacity while in the navy.

EDUCATION

After leaving the service, Marty attended the Brooks Institute of Photography in Santa Barbara, California. While attending school on the G.I.Bill, Marty and his wife also worked as apartment managers. After 28 months he received bachelors of professional arts degree (BPA) in photography. They both enjoyed living and taking photos of California where he had a job on a local paper.

RETURN TO WISCONSIN

Marty answered an ad for a civil service photographer job at UW-Stout. He was allowed to take the civil service test in California and later was offered the job by John Williams, Harry Herbert, and Bob Ward.

Over the years he has taken the photos of 5 governors on campus and was able to take photos of Al Gore and Bill Clinton at the rest stop in North Menomonie.

BALDRIGE AWARD

He went to Washington D.C. to take photos of President G.W. Bush awarding the Baldrige Award.

End of Tape 1 Side 1

Tape 2 Side 2

Baldrige Award

Security was very tight for the ceremony.

FOODSTYLING

Food styling was an important class at Stout and Marty worked with this class in photographing food and later received a grant to visit professional food photography operations.

CAMPUS PHOTOGRAPHY

Marty also spent a lot of time photographing people for passports on campus and international students. In 2000, film was phased out and photography went digital. A large data base to house negatives and images was also established.

PRESIDENTS/CHANCELLORS OF STOUT

Bob Swanson was cooperative and professional—very good to work with and a great man. Bud Micheels was fun to talk with. Marty visited him at his home in California. Charles Sorensen does not like having his picture taken.

ART DEPARTMENT—CO-WORKERS

Marty describes his experiences working with the art department and many of the people he has worked with at Stout.

RETIREMENT

He plans to participate in woodcarving, nature photography, ballroom dancing, and writing books.

He also points out that Stout is the only campus in the UW-System that has retained all of its negatives. He was especially proud of working with Bill Wikrent, a former student before becoming an assistant. There have been many changes in the organization of photographic services through the years.

The Tape ends abruptly.