

## Julia 2

🕒 Fri, 03/15 13:23PM · 41mins

00:04

Okay, so Julia, after teaching in Burlington, as a young adult you had two marriages in your life. Just tell me very briefly the names of your two husbands and children involved. Well, I was married to Bill Salmon and I had four children.

00:37

And we lived in Burlington most of that time until he had a job, got a job in Waterbury. And so we moved to Waterbury, lived on Loomis Hill in Waterbury Center. And I had four children then and I was teaching in Burlington and they were filled in the interstate.

01:05

Oh yeah, Waterbury to Burlington. Waterbury to Burlington every day and during the interstate. And Chas went with me because they didn't have a kindergarten in the Waterbury Center. And so I took him to Burlington and I had a wonderful woman who took care of him and he went to kindergarten and he drove both ways with me.

01:35

What was happening to the other three children or weren't they born yet? The other three children were going to school at the Waterbury Center. Oh, okay. Okay, so Chance was the youngest. Yeah, he was the youngest.

01:50

And so they went to school in Waterbury Center School and they were picked up by the bus in the morning and then they were brought back to Mrs. Wooders and she kept them until I got home. So you were a working mother of four children at that point.

02:15

And then you kept doing that for how many years? How long did that take? We did that for two or three years, I don't remember. And then I moved back to Burlington and I had the fourth children still.

02:35

And we lived in a rented house at Apple Tree Point. And then in 1963, I married Bob Northrop and he was a teacher at Lyman C. Hunt. Oh, so you met him through teachers. How did you meet him? I met him, we were both going to summer school and it was a philosophy of education taught by Betty Bowler.

03:11

You don't have to include that. Taught by, who was it? By Betty? Betty Bowler. Remember Betty Bowler? Yes, I do. So you and Bob were in the same class?

03:24

Yeah.

03:26

we were doing. It was for credit. 1963. Well, that was in 1961. That's where you met in the class together. Yeah, 1961. I remember driving out here to Underhill. Grace had to come with me because there wasn't any...

03:51

For some reason, there was no third grade summer school. That's right. There was no third grade summer school. So she went to school with me in the summer. Okay. And so at that time that year that we met, and we were all coming out to Bob Northrop's house to study for the final, and he said, oh, you won't have any trouble.

04:17

Just go into Underhill and turn into school. And where the... What was it? The fourth white house on the right?

04:28

Right, yeah.

04:29

And he didn't tell us that it was four miles out. And you got onto Irish settlement road and drove and drove and drove looking for it, right? Looking for it, and of course it was alder road and still is a dirt road, until we came to where he lived and we studied and there were probably five or six of us that came out, how many were there Grace?

05:01

I don't remember that. I don't remember that either. And we studied and that was my introduction to Underhills Elementary School, because you turned at the elementary school. I had this picture that you're trying to find the house and in those days the road went right in front of the house.

05:23

Oh yeah, it was right. The kids, the children would jump up from the table and they would run to see who was driving by because there were not that many houses between Underhills Center School and Irishman's.

05:43

They lost more now. Yep, yep, so the road got changed over the years. Yeah. Yeah, so there you were with Grace and the other children were being cared for or were still in Burlington probably when you went out that time.

06:06

No, that time, yeah.

06:10

Yeah.

06:11

Yeah, because they were in summer school. They were in summer school, and so that was the first time you were ever at that house on Irish Settlement Road, and was Bob there with children? Did he have children?

06:25

He didn't have any kids with him at that moment. He had an unhappy divorce. Yeah. And how many children did he have? He had three, and he had to fight for custody of each one of those kids, and Lucy and Pat were the same age.

06:53

They were three months apart. And Mike and Bill were five months apart.

07:00

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07:01

Bill. Okay, for the record, for the record, just while we're talking, name your four [siblings] for me in order. Pat. Bill. Grace. Grace. Jess. Charles. Um, wait a second. Year four for Dot, Grace, Chas, and you.

07:34

Ha!

07:37

No, you're four. You're four. We're Pat, Bill. Ah, Pat, okay. Pat, Pat, Bill, Grace, Grace, and Jess. Yeah. Yeah, Pat, Bill, Grace, and Jess. Okay. Yeah. And Bob's children were... Give me those and then...

08:03

Lucy, Mike, and Steve. Start again. The first name? Lucy. Lucy, yes. Yeah. Mike. Mike. And Steve. Okay. And they kind of... Just kind of... It worked out kind of like three sets of twins. Yeah. And it was a really merged family, wasn't it?

08:35

It really was. They were... None of them were... Pat and Lucy were three months apart. And Mike... How far? Mike and Bill were about five months apart, and Grace and Steve were about ten months apart.

08:53

Yeah, those three sets of twins. And then... And then a gap. A gap down the hem. Yeah. Okay. That's wonderful. Well, Tuck,

I'd love to hear about Underhill for you. People you met and experiences you had and what...

09:16

So when you married Bob, then you ended up on your settlement road in the house, right? That's where you went after you married. And I'm still here. And you're still there. We added on several times.

09:35

So do you have any memories or events of anything happening in Underhill that people would not remember nowadays?

10:05

People might not remember that the older kids at the elementary school,

10:12

school would also go to town meeting because we serve

10:16

for the lunch for the adults. Oh, that's interesting. Very cool thing. Yeah. What else was cool? Gert Prior was cooked a meal. Oh, our bread and butter sandwiches. Yep, well. What was the bread and butter sandwich kitchen?

10:43

Yeah, we served a hot lunch. And Gert Prior was head cook. And mothers all helped. We took turns. What day was your dad at Kett Underhill Center School? I don't know how many. I know that I worked.

11:04

I went on, you go down and help Gert get the buns ready. So you did this as a volunteer. You didn't get paid for that, probably. Oh, no, we didn't get paid. So Gert was making lunch at that time for everybody in the school.

11:24

And she was the only cook, right? Yeah, she was the cook. And then the rest of us were volunteered.

11:33

Yeah.

11:34

Was there a school nurse at the school? No. I asked because the schools around here in early days didn't have nurses. If anything happened, just had to call home and somebody come and take care of the child.

11:53

Exactly. Of course, the kids all arrived, most of the kids arrived by bus.

12:03

My kids.

12:04

What was his name?

12:08

often.

12:09

Mr. Potvin was our bus driver and I've he was that Reggie Potvin I don't know that's okay we'll figure it out

12:23

Yeah, I don't think so.

12:26

Yeah. So, thinking of names, you've already mentioned Prior and Potvin. What other names of people do you know in Underhill who you know have been here for a long time, or maybe second or third generation?

12:45

Oh, my. I'd have to think about that one, Jane. Yeah. Crick Walker is one. Well, Krik Walker. Yeah. Yeah. And then who are the people that lived at the other end of the road? Underhill town and Cambridge town split right before the end of our road.

13:13

Mm -hmm and so like the butlers Yeah, well that there weren't any houses down there

13:24

Yes, that's true. Quite another.

13:30

Are we talking about where Irish settlement goes into Pleasant Valley?

13:39

Yes.

13:42

Yeah, and the butlers were in Cambridge while the down line went through the butlers house. And so they had a choice. They could go to either school and they all went to Underhill, didn't they?

14:00

Thanks.

14:01

Not gracious, no, they didn't go back.

14:04

I didn't know them until I finished off.

14:06

Yep.

14:07

Um...

14:14

In Underhill Center was the, what is now the town pond, was that a pond then? Could people swim there? No. No. But you had a pond at your house, didn't you, for swimming? Yes, I had a pond. And that was a big deal on Mr.

14:31

Northrop's class, they always came out and they had a And that was a big deal. He was teaching, he was teaching at an elementary school.

14:47

You and Rachel.

14:48

Junior high. Junior high. And he would bring the whole class out every year for a trip? Yep. They'd come out and picnic and you know their parents would come out. I remember the Pages always drove out.

15:03

The kids had a wonderful time. They thought you know we're going out to Mission North or somewhere about swimming and have a picnic. Yeah. And this is this is the 60s probably. Sixty -three on up into the 70s.

15:20

Yeah. All this was going on. Yeah. What about grocery shopping? Did you have to drive a long way to get groceries? Yes. We'd shopped at which one? Where did you go? I'm sorry I missed that. At Colodny's grocery store in Burlington.

15:44

Oh, Colodny's. So, so. Because I was. Closely. Yeah. And we used to always stop at Curt's. And what did at the grocery? We went to Tippie's. We went where? Tippie's Jacobs. Tippie Jacobs store. Yep. That was where we did any you know and I really.

16:15

Well, Bolio's store was around. What? Bolio's because that was pretty scary. Bolio's. That's right. Bolio's. But we didn't shop for groceries there.

16:28

very much.

16:30

Grace, you've got some good memories too. You can get in a little closer and then we can hear things you say better, if you want to. So, social activities, it sounds to me like you must have been really busy, Julia, during those years that the kids are all still growing up.

16:56

The kids were picking up and I taught piano at home. People came to your house with their kids for piano lessons. Kids would get off the school bus and come and have their lessons. And eat cookies. And then when they were finished, Mom or Dad would come and get them.

17:20

Yes.

17:23

Well, no. Some of the dads came. Volgemanns. How many students did you have at one time? What was the most you would do at one time? I don't know. I could only do two or three after by the time the school bus got home, got here, and they had their cookies, and then they'd have their lesson.

17:52

Of course, all of my kids were here. It was really busy. It was real busy. Did you teach any of your children piano? Not really. She took piano lessons from our organist for the church, and Pubezi.

18:22

Is that normal?

18:24

What?

18:24

Oscar.

18:26

Yes, she did. She's Norma Ochter, who and Norma lives near us at Apple Free Point, and she used to come and play practice on my piano because I had a really nice piano.

18:43

He also, Mommy, Jane, Mommy, also, Mommy, also, TV school music teacher.

18:51

I forgot about that.

18:54

5th grade.

18:56

me

18:56

and go watch her for her first show.

18:59

Huh, and every Monday morning I went on and I said, good morning, my name is Mrs. Northrop and I'm your TV school

music teacher. That was my spiel. And then I would get a call. It was a WCAX? Yep. Monday was music, Tuesday was math, Wednesday was science, you know, it was, it was a sub subject for you every day, from 9 .30 to 10, I've forgotten that.

19:34

And so the schools would use their television sets and set you up in front of the students, right? Yep, exactly. And I didn't have, I had my piano and that was all. And I was not allowed to have anybody on with me.

19:50

The kids were not, I remember the man was in charge, he said, we don't want any distractions so that there were no children were allowed on that show. It was just the teacher. You became the teacher that, that half hour and so they came, so the cameraman came out to your house.

20:12

No, I know you had to go in. I went into the studio and it was before the days of the close -ups, what I remember most was that anything, any time I was on, I never knew where the TV, where the cameraman were.

20:32

They would be right up at my face or across the room or wherever or at the piano because there was no such thing as close -ups. Oh. They couldn't adjust it, the camera went with them and they would come right up at my face and I'd be talking to them anyway.

20:57

I imagine that WCAX has probably still got tapes of all that of you teaching. I imagine they do. I imagine. I've never seen it.

21:11

Jervro, another name.

21:14

But did you ever know how many schools would take the program, would that show you? I don't have any idea. You just went and did it and then did you have to make up the lesson every week to have a lesson?

21:32

Oh yeah. And was it all kinds of music or just piano and I mean? Grade school music. Grade school music. Okay. That's wonderful. It was third to second or third. You know, it was geared to a second or third.

21:51

But I can remember walking, being on Church Street and having an elderly gentleman stop me and say, you're my TV school music teacher, will you explain such and such to me? It was funny. I had a good time.

22:09

I had forgotten that. And every Sunday afternoon I would close myself out in our bedroom and work on what I was going to say the next morning. And you had the time to be half an hour. Yeah. And it was all whatever I wanted to do.

22:29

For half an hour I did it. And it was nobody else allowed on. I couldn't have a friend or a student or anybody else. They had their rules, yeah. They had their rules. So once all these seven children grew up and went off elsewhere, you and Bob were on Irish settlement road for quite a long time.

23:04

Yes, we were. And I remember during those years he was doing a lot of hiking in the mountains. Did you ever go hiking with him or did you just send him off with his food? I sent him off most of the time.

23:20

You know, we hiked just for fun, but most of the time I was the supplier. Grace and I, we knew where every road crossed the long trail on the whole state of Vermont because we would drive with supplies, with food, clean clothes.

23:48

And we had a ball. We knew more. How did you communicate with him though? Because there weren't any cell phones then. Oh no. He was very regimented. He knew exactly where he was every minute. Yes. Did you?

24:06

He knew exactly what crossing he was coming to and about what time it would be. And what time and we would be there and we would have food and clothes and it was fun. Yeah. Didn't he go with one of the grandsons to do it?

24:31

Yes. One of the family members?

24:35

He did it once with Steve, he did it once with...

24:42

Well, Stephen Roberts.

24:45

Stevie's son.

24:47

Ah.

24:48

Did it with Jonathan Eddy, who is a nephew.

24:52

Uh huh. Um, who was, there was one other person who did it was

24:57

Bill would help on the treacherous stuff. Bill would just kind of run up the mountain and meet him in places that were really dangerous to help him across dangerous spots.

25:06

and he was 85 when he did last did it or 80 he was in his 80s You've did it seven times.

25:20

He did it twice as a child, well, a teen, then he did 50, 60, 70, and 80, that's five. That's what he did five times?

25:32

Yeah, on the decade, 50, 60, 70, 80, that's four times.

25:38

I think he did 85 also.

25:40

Yes. So meanwhile, you were important in all this too, Julia, because you had to go to all those crossings and meet him and take clean socks and food and things like that. So that was quite an adventure.

25:58

Are you still there? Yep, I'm here. And he hiked with the governor once, and that was...

26:09

Oh, and he's BPR following a hole hike.

26:12

What?

26:13

Oh, yes, they had morning morning news with with Bob

26:20

or whatever. Bob is. And it was- In her school. In her school too. And they- So what about friendships in Underhill? Do you have some memories of certain people that you'd like to mention that were good friends or have been good friends?

26:43

Well, Faith. Faith Durbrow Donohue. Yep. Right? And really, yep. Irene Linde. They were...

26:57

cut.

26:58

Yeah, all the Wolcott. Which Wolcott was that? Well, Nan, Nan Wolcott and all the kids. Yep, all the kids. But that was, uh, the Wolcott, Wadhams, Evans group. Uh... Mountain -the Mountain Road crowd.

27:28

But the Under -of the Underhill, it was Faith and Reaney, and how, uh, Judy, uh...

27:42

Bye -bye.

27:43

Yeah. Yeah, and our husband just said, I can't just, if you see, you're getting me.

27:51

live up on, on, on...

27:55

You're getting closer to my name dropping. I can't remember names now. Well, but the fact that you mentioned Faith and Irene, first off, I know those were, you were very close to both of them. Yeah. I know, yep.

28:14

And then, but, there was Judy and Carolyn. Judy Boardman? Yeah, Judy Boardman. Yes, she's very active now. And Carolyn Leighton. Yep. Well, Julia, I think we've covered an awful lot, but I want you to, have I left something out or can you think of something you'd like to add to this to say?

28:47

Thank you. Thank you.

28:48

a memory or an event or something you'd like to...

28:53

Hey!

28:54

because you had a whole yard business out of the house. Yeah. The sheep were in the, all, well, there's still sheep there, but you're not raising them. But it's a sheep farm where you live, isn't it?

29:11

Well, it was our sheep. Yeah. What kind of sheep are they?

29:23

Dorset, um, Suffolk.

29:28

Yep. I'm with fat folks.

29:30

Yep.

29:31

We raised sheep for quite a while. Quite a long time. They had a whole yard business right out of the house. You had a lot of them at once. I remember seeing them there. It was a big flock. Oh, it was a lot.



29:48

You almost hit 300 creatures. 300, wow.

29:53

Did you?

29:56

Did you have to, I mean was it a job when they were out to pasture to herd them all into the barn? That sort of thing? Not much of a job. I had my systems and I would go out and I would sheep, sheep, sheep.

30:15

I would call them and they would come because they knew I was going to feed them. Did you take care of babies with bottles at times? Oh yeah, oh yeah. We had babies all over and some nights I would sleep at the barn.

30:34

It was my deal. Robert was the business manager but I was the one that was taking care of them. He managed it and you did the work. Yeah, well I loved the sheep. His sister and her husband gave us our first sheep and we added another one.

31:04

We had a little shed here right by the house that we raised. We had two or three sheep there. Then all of a sudden we had well over a hundred. Just kept happening. They multiply. That's really good Vermont tradition.

31:27

I couldn't possibly sell or give away when we were first joining. I had to keep every one of them. I loved them. We also had a pig named Catherine. What was Renee's? I remember that pig but I can't remember the name.

31:57

What was her name? I used to know her because we had a Catherine at the same time. Was she big? Very big? This is one of Grace's, that was Catherine, that was my pig. One of Grace's friends was out here and she said, what are you going to name her?

32:21

I said, I'll name her after you. So I named her Catherine. We had her for as long as she could have babies and then we had to shift her off. She had her own pen. She was in a pen that was a horse standing on.

32:45

She would jump on the door and greet me every day. Pigs are very clean. They're wonderful pets. Some people say that sheep are not very smart. Do you agree with that? Yes. Are they intelligent? They're not very smart.

33:02

They're dumb. They're not so smart. But they're appealing. They're sweet. They're wonderful. We raised them for wool and we used to take all the wool over the mane and deliver it. We had much time going with sheep.

33:28

Not with pigs. We just had Catherine. We raised baby pigs. We raised pigs for people. What was her name that lived up at Creek Walkers? What was her name? She bought that place and she moved on. That's one of those names.

34:02

I'm having the same trouble. I think I know. It's a beautiful spot right there on Sand Hill Road. She had pigs. She had a mother pig and she couldn't get her to nurse. She wouldn't let the baby... She had babies and she wouldn't let the babies nurse.

34:29

She snort them away and she called Robert and he went down. He said, this is not for publication. She had a bottle of liquor and he fed it to them. She just lay right down and let the baby snare. I think that's all right.

34:52

I don't think that that's any problem. Just to leave on. It was, what was her name? I don't remember. I remembered Renee's pig's name. Renee's pig's name was Ardsley. Ardsley, that's right. Ardsley, walking down the road.

35:13

And another person who I knew real well was Marie Tedford. Yes. She lived next door. Living in Underhill Center, yep. Underhill Friends and still is. Well, the Tedfords lived up on Irish settlement for a while, didn't they?

35:34

They were your neighbors. They lived down the road. What's the name of the lady that taught school?

35:45

Did it work?

35:46

taught school, and I taught her piano. Oh, I don't remember her name. And she was a close friend, too, and moved to Maine. She and her husband moved to Maine. Bob, and what was it? What'll happen is it'll hit you later.

36:05

You'll suddenly remember it. And then Marie and Ted moved down to the house next door to us, which was always called Nana's house, because she owned it at one time. She bought that Nana, Robert's mother, bought that little house next to us at 100 acres for \$3 ,000.

36:33

My goodness. My goodness. And they worked hard. Ted, you know, they put the wood floor down, and they fixed that house up.

36:48

What I'd add is the back hold back, yes.

36:50

and what?

36:51

I think I added that old back end.

36:53

Yes, they had a daughter who was an invalid, and they added on a bedroom on the first floor for her. This is Ted and Marie.

37:04

Mm -hmm.

37:05

and that she could manipulate her with a wheelchair. She was wheelchair, she was in an ambulance. I don't remember the name of the Z she had, but she lived at home, and Marie took care of her. And oh, boy, we were very close with them.

37:30

Oh, you had.

37:31

quite a time, you've had quite a time in Underhill. Yeah, and at that time, it was neighbors. You know, I think that you ask about people that are close. We didn't have many neighbors. We had Denver E, and we had the walkers lived up way up over the hill.

37:54

And I had no clue. And then we had the Fullers out the other side of us. And they were not, the kids used to come down to the barn all the time. Well, you lived, and like the old farmers did, which was a distance from another house, not anybody right on top of you, so.

38:35

Well, I think we better wind down now, and if you think of anything more you'd like to tell me or talk about, just give me a call sometime and I'll leave a message if I don't answer. And we'll see how this all goes, okay?

38:58

Okay, Jean, fine. I really, really appreciate your taking the time, Julie. It was really very nice of you to do. It was interesting. Good thing that Grace was here. I'll tell you what I have to say. Thank you too, Grace.

39:15

Thank you. This morning, I didn't know that she was coming today. I thought this was Tuesday. And I was getting out of the shower and she stuck her head in the bathroom and I yelled no. I was scared to.

39:31

There aren't any, I was, and she said, mother, it's Wednesday. And I said, no, it's Tuesday. I lost the whole day. So, you know, I'm not possible. Thanks for everything. Thank you, Julie. Thank you too, Grace.

39:52

Take care. I'm gonna hang up now. Okay, bye -bye. All right, bye. Bye -bye.