Twila Cox

INTERVIEW WITH: Twila Cox
INTERVIEWER: Marsha Holland
INTERVIEW NUMBER: one
DATE OF INTERVIEW: February 28, 2002
PLACE OF INTERVIEW: Home of Twila Cox, Orderville, Utah
SUBJECT OF INTERVIEW: Early life in Widstoe and Alton
TRANScriber: Marsha Holland
DATE: June 25, 2002

Tape 1, Side A

MH: It is February 27, 2002 and I am in Orderville, Utah. I am with Twila Cox. Hi, Twila.

TC: How are you today?

MH: Good. Can you tell me your whole name please?

TC: Twila Irene Campbell.Cox

MH: So you are a Campbell then? Where were you born?

TC: Widstoe, Widstoe, Utah. Twenty-fifth of April 1922.

MH: So you are coming up on a birthday then? And who were your parents?

TC: Lewis Orlan Campbell and Laura Edna Goulding Campbell.

MH: What did your family do in Widstoe?

TC: Sawmill, more than anything else. My family lived out on a big farm, Holts Ranch and my dad did farm work there too.

MH: Did you have a lot of brothers and sisters?

TC: I am the oldest of eight. (Chuckle)

MH: Oldest of eight. Did you have a lot of chores then?

TC: No, not many. Not then being only eight years old.

MH: Were all your brothers and sisters born there?
TC: My sister was born in Widstoe. Dorian? My sister is Thora Leach of Panguitch. Dorian Campbell and Donald Campbell. Kenneth K. Campbell and Cloreen Campbell both died when they were infants. Then I have twin brothers Lane V. and Vane L. Campbell. Vane lives in Alton [Utah]. The rest are gone, but Thora and Vane and I.

MH: Where is Thora now?

TC: She lives in Panguitch, Utah.

MH: What was it like growing up in Widstoe? I haven’t met any one from there yet.

TC: Well, I can’t remember too much about it. We went to town from the ranch in a Model-T Ford that my mother used to drive. Later years we asked her about getting a driver license and she said she put a quarter in an envelope and sent it to the sheriff and she had a driver license.

MH: That was how she got it? (Chuckles)

TC: We used to go to church in Widstoe and after church everyone went to the ballpark for baseball. I can remember when twin my brothers were blessed there in church. When we lived on the ranch we had a dog we liked. It was a black dog and his name was Bryce. He did lots of tricks that we enjoyed. My father put out stricnine for coyotes and the dog got some and so then we didn’t still have the dog.

MH: That is a sad memory.

TC: It was. We missed our dog. Then we moved to... my family still lived on the ranch and I went to Circleville to live with my grandparents to go to school.

MH: Was there no school in Widstoe then?
Twila Campbell Cox

TC: There was school in Widstoe but it was six miles away and so we didn't go into school everyday. I lived with my grandparents in Circleville to go to school. I was sick several times. Mom said it was scarlet fever and different things and I didn't attend school enough to be promoted from the first grade, because of sickness living with my grandparents.

MH: What were your grandparents' names?

TC: John R. and Avery Jenetta Campbell.

MH: That was on your dad's side.

TC: My dad. My mother was from Henrieville.

MH: She was a Goulding.

TC: Yes a Goulding. Let's see.

MH: Would you ever go to Henrieville to visit?

TC: Yes, we would go visit my mother's sister, Aunt Caroline Smith. We would go there to visit and to Cannonville. My dad's sister lived in Cannonville and we would go there to visit. Daisy Johnson and my mother's sister that lived in Cannonville was Fern Henderson.

MH: What do you remember about Cannonville when you would go there to visit them?

TC: They had a nice garden and they had a lot of nice things to eat, and a huge big apricot tree in the front yard that we would pick apricots out of.

MH: Did you ever go down to the red rock to play?

TC: I don't remember doing that.

MH: What about in Henrieville?
TC: There were good gardens there, too. Everyone had good big gardens and we would go visit with the cousins. My Aunt Caroline in Henrieville had eleven children and my Aunt Daisy in Cannonville had eleven children. So there were lots of cousins to play with.

MH: No kidding, that would be fun. When you would go to visit in Bryce Valley, would you drive the Model-T?

TC: Yes we would go in the Model-T Ford.

MH: How long would it take to get there?

TC: Well, it seemed like quite a long while. And at one time in Widstoe we lived out on a ranch and we went to town for the Fourth of July. My dad drove the car some of the kids rode with him and my mother drove the horses and buggy and I rode to town with her.

MH: What was it like going down The Dump?

TC: It was always a little scary to me and it was interesting to go through the tunnels.

MH: What tunnels? Oh, in Red Canyon. So, how would you come around? If you were traveling to Panguitch, you remember the tunnels?

TC: Yes.

MH: What was the drop-off going into Bryce Valley like?

TC: That was it a little bit scary. It looked like you could fall off.

MH: It was a dirt road?

TC: Oh, yeah it was a dirt road.

MH: Tell me more about Widstoe. You lived on a ranch?
We lived in a house in town, in Widstoe. I can remember the time when a baby passed away. We liked this big dog that they owned. One night the dog howled on our back porch and my mother went out and shooed him away. The next day we found out that his baby had passed away. Just down the road a block or two.

The dog came to tell you?

I can remember we were scared because the dog howled so long on our back porch.

Were there a lot of people living in Widstoe then? Did it seem like a big town?

It was quite big. I don’t know how many people. The government finally moved them out. There was no livelihood there.

Why did the government move them out?

They moved them up north to Payson and some of those places up there. They did that after my family moved to Alton in 1931. That is when I think they moved the people out of Widstoe.

Were they CCC people? What jobs did they have?

There was a ranger station there in Widstoe where I think the Jorgensens lived. and a post office and a hotel and a store. Mostly there were ranchers and farmers and there was a sawmill. I think my grandfather had a garage where they fixed cars.

The road from Widstoe to Escalante, people used that all the time then, right?

They hauled the mail down that way. We lived up out of town on the ranch and the mail truck used to come past our place and it was a noisy truck and we could hear it a long ways away, before it passed our house.
MH: Did you ride horses?

TC: No. I remember we had doggie lambs that we fed. One of them had six legs.

Two legs sticking out from under its chin.

MH: It lived?

TC: Not very long. We thought it was unusual, but it didn’t live very long.

MH: Then your family moved to Alton. What was it like when your family moved to Alton? How did you move all your stuff?

TC: In a truck. And we rode in the back of the truck coming here. My dad and his father and brothers got a sawmill up the canyon. They bought Bybee’s sawmill and that is why we moved to Alton, to live up the canyon where the sawmill was.

MH: Would he work at the sawmill or would he go out and cut trees.

TC: Well, I think they did both. I think they ran the sawmill and saw so many logs and then have to get more. That was the way they did it.

MH: Where would the milled wood go?

TC: Sell it. People would usually come in with a truck to get it. They didn’t ship it.

MH: Were there people who worked for your dad in the mill?

TC: Yes some fellows from Alton worked up there. They cut trees then they worked in the sawmill some.

MH: Was Alton a town then with a post office and a store?

TC: Oh, yes. There was a big store on the corner. I can remember when we came there we stopped at the store and some boys came and talked to us, asked our name and things, and kind of teased us in the back of the truck. In fact one of
them was my husband. (Laughter) I don’t remember very well, but he remembered it and told me about it quite a few times.

MH: Allen, your husband was from Alton too?
TC: Yes, he was born there.

MH: He was a Cox. Who were his parents?
TC: William Mills and Eliza Olive Allen Cox. His mother was from Tropic. [The] Allens from Tropic. She was John Millard Allen’s daughter from Tropic.

MH: How did they meet? Did he ever tell you about it?
TC: I think he said his mother came to Hatch to stay with a sister when she had a new baby and that was where she met her husband.

MH: What did you think about living in Alton, compared to living in Widstoe?
TC: It was all right. It was awful muddy. It was all gravel streets. I sure remember the mud and snow. We had a lot of snow in Alton over the years.

MH: How many kids were there? Did they have a school?
TC: Oh, yes. They had a school house with four grades in each room, two teachers when we first came there.

MH: All the kids in your family went there?
TC: All the kids in my family.

MH: Did school go better for you when you moved to Alton?
TC: I think it did a little because we lived closed to the schoolhouse and we could just go across the street to the schoolhouse. (Laughter)

MH: What did your mom do all the time your dad is working in the sawmill?
TC: She stayed home and took good care of us. My father was killed on July first 1932 up to Tropic Reservoir when we were on a fishing trip.

MH: You were on a family trip?

TC: Yes.

MH: What happened?

TC: It was raining and they were in the back of the truck. The truck had a low rack on it, but not across the front behind the cab of the truck. My uncle’s family was there and then a family from Alton and my dad stood up in this truck to tell my uncle where to drive so he wouldn’t get stuck in the mud and he fell and the truck ran over him. Between the bed and the cab. The truck ran over him and killed him.

MH: That is a tragedy.

TC: It was. My mother had six of us to raise and take care of. She used to work out for people in their homes.

MH: How old were you then?

TC: Nine.

MH: So a lot of your life you were without your father. What happened at the sawmill when he was gone?

TC: My grandfather took it over. Grandfather Campbell. John R. Campbell. Then one, two, three of the boys worked in it too.

MH: As the boys got older?

TC: Yes. My dad’s brothers. So, we just stayed in Alton. We had to move down out of the canyon, move to town so we could go to school.
MH: What happened when you got to high school?
TC: Well, I didn’t go to high school like most of them did. We came down here to the high school and boarded with someone. We didn’t have a school bus at the time. I boarded with a family just down the street, Roland and Belva Lamb. I didn’t go a whole year because I didn’t have the money.

MH: You stayed with the Lambs down here?
TC: Roland and Belva Lamb. They are both gone now too. That’s how the students in Alton went to school. Sometimes you could find a family where you could work for part of your board, run errands for part of your board. I did lots of baby tending and housework for people from the time I was about eleven years old.

MH: Did you get through high school?
TC: Oh, no. I didn’t finish high school. I went back to Alton and did house work things for people. I learned to wave hair and I used to wave people’s hair a lot.

MH: That was in the 30’s and 40’s then. Do you remember the effects of the Depression here?
TC: There wasn’t much money, but people raised good gardens. I think they did pretty well. More often than not you could trade around with someone for something that you needed.

MH: Did you ever go to the big city somewhere when you couldn’t get something you needed here?
TC: No, not ever. There was a store in Alton. This Mr. Lewis would go to Cedar or someplace to buy things for his store. I never did go.

MH: When was the first time you ever left the area to go a long way a way?
Twila Campbell Cox

TC: I went to Kingston to stay with my uncle and aunt once. Then we would go to Cannonville and Henrieville to visit once and awhile. After my father died we didn’t have much chance to ride anyplace. It used to be quite a treat to ride in a car.

MH: Then Allen was growing up in the same town too. When did you guys get married?

TC: Sixty-two years ago. He was born in Alton and he was from a big family. He had two brothers and eight sisters.

MH: Eight sisters?

TC: He went to school till the eighth grade. We had the same kind of family he did, I mean. We had eight boys and three girls and his parents had three boys and eight girls. (Laughter) This is my seventy-fifth birthday party. (She shows me a photograph of her children) This girl passed away a few years ago. His family had a farm. All eight of these guys went on a mission and so did we.

MH: Where did you go on your mission?

TC: Pennsylvania- Harrisburg. During the World War, my husband worked on construction on Geneva Steel Plant in Orem. We moved up there. We lived up there for a while. We used to have a market when we lived up there.

MH: I was going to ask you about that.

TC: He worked at the Geneva Steel Plant then he worked, he came back to Alton and worked in the coalmine. He didn’t go into the service.

MH: I didn’t know there was a coalmine in Alton. Is it still going?
Twila Campbell Cox

TC: No, it has been shut down for a lot of years. The man that owned it was from Kanab and Allen worked there for quite awhile.

MH: Then you and Allen got married and then what did you do?

TC: He worked at the coalmine and did carpentry work. Then he, when our twins were born, he worked at a coalmine and at anything he could find to do. Right after we were married he also, he owned a hay baler. He baled hay.

MH: Just baled hay?

TC: It was a hay baler that you set down on the ground and the horses stood there and walked around, round and round all day to bale the hay. It was machinery.

MH: So he would take that contraption and go to the field and set it up and bale people’s hay?

TC: Yes, He baled quite a bit down here in this area.

MH: It that because people were busy cutting and doing other things, that he had enough work with his baler?

TC: Yes, right.

MH: So, you must have had horses?

TC: Yes, he did. They weren’t white, they were gray, but they were pretty horses. Fox and Bess.

MH: Did the kids learn how to ride the horses?

TC: That was before we had children, when we had the baler. When we had children, at home that wanted to do things, we kept a horse for them to ride. Two or three different times. In 1950 we moved from the west side of town to over the east side and he took the Post Office.
Twila Campbell Cox

MH: In Orderville or Alton?

TC: In Alton. We had the Post Office for twenty-five years. Besides building. Then for a few years a little store.

MH: In Alton. What was the name of the store?

TC: Just Alton Merc.

MH: So, you took over the store then?

TC: We took over the Post Office then a man in town had a store over a block from us so when we got the store we put it in the house too. At one time we had both the store and the Post Office in our house. So, I tended kids and did the store and Post Office while my husband worked away anytime he could, building. The when the twins were babies we had the shoe repair shop for forty-seven years.

MH: There was a shoe repair shop in Alton?

TC: When we moved down here we brought it down here and had it down here for a few years. We went to LaVerkin too and stayed down there. Our oldest son has the shoe shop now and he is also the bishop of our ward.

MH: In Orderville?

TC: We moved down here to Orderville in 1977.

MH: So, you had all your kids then, but there were still some at home, right?

TC: These three boys here still lived with us. We moved when this guy was on a mission.

MH: So, these guys were in high school?

TC: All of them moved away. We had five of them in college at once. Someone asked how we could afford it. We said we weren’t. They were doing it
themselves. This girl didn’t graduate from college but all the rest did. This girl has bookkeeping business in St. George. They all have good jobs and work at them. They are remarkable kids.

MH: What was Orderville like then? Did you come down here from Alton for things?

TC: Yes, we came down for church meetings and conference meetings and to go to the store.

MH: This is Kane County right?

TC: Yes.

MH: So, the county seat is in Kanab. Do you remember going down there for business?

TC: Oh, yes. A lot of things we went to Kanab for. [To] The hospital to have all these kids. Blane and the rest were born in Kanab hospital. Wait a minute; this one was born in Panguitch hospital. They didn’t have a hospital. Women in Panguitch took maternity patients in their homes. He was born in Panguitch and Melvin was born in Panguitch and Joyce was. Burton and Barton were born in Kanab. Kenneth was born in Kanab and Irene was born in Kanab. Joyce was born in Panguitch. Dr. Duggan. These three boys were all born in Kanab.

MH: What are their names?

TC: Kenneth, Jay, Lewis, Dean and Mel.

MH: They all look a lot the same.

TC: All except Joyce and Lewis, black hair, their hair is red. Except Jay’s isn’t anymore.

MH: None of ours is the same anymore. Your kids went to school up in Alton?
TC: They went to school in Alton until this guy Kenneth was in school. Then they closed the school up there and they came down here.

MH: Were they bussed here?

TC: Yes, they had a bus then. All of them went to high school here in Orderville and when these three kids were in kindergarten we hauled them one way. We either hauled them down to school or came and got them.

End Tape 1, Side A

Begin Tape 1, Side B

MH: Do you remember when the school closed? Here is no school there now. is there?

TC: No, they just bussed the school kids down here, except for kindergarten who only went half a day so we hauled them.

MH: Eventually the population was so small it wasn’t enough to support the school?

TC: Yes, there wasn’t enough to have a teacher up there.

MH: Do you remember being a part of that decision? Did you see that coming?

TC: I think we did. I don’t remember exactly how it was voted.

MH: How did you get the teachers in Alton?

TC: Most of them came in to live with someone. My husband was counting once, but he counted over the years the schoolteachers that came to Alton and married there and stayed there. There were quite a few. Let’s see, Mrs. Afton Heaton did and Martha Roundy, Athelia Siler and I can’t think of who else.

MH: What happened in Alton that made the population change, become smaller?

TC: People moved away mostly. Now, the last few years, or for quite a few years, Heaton Livestock has been there.
MH: Did they do sheep?

TC: They did sheep for quite a few years then they turned to cattle.

MH: Do you remember when they had sheep up there?

TC: Oh, yes. I remember when they had sheep out in the fields and out in the hills and all around.

MH: Did they shear them up in Alton?

TC: No, they didn’t shear them right in town. They had shearing corrals out of town a ways. I don’t remember them shearing sheep in town.

MH: They would shear them, and then what would they do with the wool?

TC: They shipped it many years to Marysvale to train. I don’t know much about that.

MH: Then things shifted to cattle?

TC: Yes, Heaton Livestock Company bought a lot of the land around when people were leaving they own a whole lot of land up there.

MH: Does the family still live up in there?

TC: Some of the families still do.

MH: How many families are still up in Alton?

TC: I don’t know, but twenty-two years that we have lived down here there have been a lot more people move there and build homes. They have a big ward. Then there are eight families on Cedar Mountain that are members of the Alton Ward.

MH: We’ll have to talk about some of the families still up there that you remember from growing up there.
There are two or three older people. Lorena Roundy still lives there and Delilah (Barton) Heaton still does. Alma Heaton does. Florence and Vard (Heaton) still live there. And my brother, Vane and his wife still live up there.

Really? What did he do up there?

Well, I'm not sure. For a lot of years he was over the road construction in Kane County. Then he retired.

So he had a job that was pretty steady?

They worked quite a lot of people up there, worked for Kaibab Lumber Company before it closed down.

Where would they travel to cut the wood?

To Fredonia.

And they lived in Alton?

Yes.

That is a long haul.

It is. Then at one time there were five women up there that taught school. They made a living and had their homes there and things so...

What things would your brothers and sisters and you do to have fun?

Sleigh ride on the hills in the snow. Have parties and bonfires. You could go build a bonfire and then a whole bunch of kids would come around 'cause they saw a bonfire. (Laughter)

Were there musicians in your town?

Oh, yes. Quite a few of them. We had kind of an orchestra who performed for the Fourth of July. They used to have a lot of dances when I was growing up.
MH: Where would you have the dances?

TC: In the hall. They had a church house with a hall on it. My husband and I went to lots of dances the summer before we got married. The kids had horses to ride. The way Alton is situated; the hills were close enough so you could hike on the hills easily if you wanted.

MH: Did you have forts?

TC: I think they did have some forts, when they had snow.

MH: There must have been a lot of snow.

TC: There was. Sometimes there was six feet.

MH: It doesn't snow like that anymore.

TC: I think maybe once since we moved down here we had really a lot of snow. Before they used heavy equipment to clean the roads and things, why, sometimes you walked on top of it and made a trail and so on. They didn't clear the streets. You could walk over the fences sometimes to go to school.

MH: Do you remember in Alton or maybe in Widstoe, was there electricity when you were growing up?

TC: No, not in Widstoe. No, we didn't have electricity in Alton for everyone until 1939. Just after we were married they turned it on. They used to have a plant on the corners, where someone would start this plant at night and have it, a few homes would have this electricity that would turn on a certain time at night and turn off a certain time at night. Two or three hours for lights. On Monday they would turn it on for washday. Some people had washers and they would turn on
the motor for people to wash a certain time of day. But there weren’t very many people who had washers. We didn’t. We used a washboard.

MH: That is why you had a lot of kids, so everyone could take turns scrubbing the laundry? Things changed in that way. You probably didn’t have indoor plumbing either?

TC: Oh, no. Some of the kids can’t believe it when you tell them, when I say I was raised in a house with no running water. “Well how did you get you water?” somebody asked. “We had a lot of buckets”, I said. We carried water from down at the neighbors barn.

MH: Were did the water come from?

TC: North of Alton, a place called Birch. There was some water springs over there. That is where they piped the water into Alton from.

MH: Just down from your place there was a spigot where you could get water?

TC: Down to a barn a half a block away.

MH: Were you happy when you got indoor plumbing?

TC: Well, let’s see. We didn’t have it ourselves until Margaret was a couple of years old. (She is the oldest) We had water piped into our house. We lived in a one-room shop that my husband had built right after we got married. We were there quite a little while before we got water in the house. Then my mother didn’t have water in her house until after we were married. Allen helped put it in.

MH: It was a hard life?

TC: Didn’t hurt us. We got clear to here just fine.

MH: How have you seen Orderville change over the years?
It has gotten a little bit bigger, but over the years we've been here or it had fluctuated. One or two families move out, one or two move in. Far as ward members are concerned it stays pretty near the same.

Do you ever have a chance to go over to Henrieville and Cannonville anymore?

We don't. We haven't traveled for quite some time because of our health. I don't know if the relatives live there anymore.

The Cox name, were they some of the original settlers?

Alan's family came from up around in Manti, up in that area.

Were they farmers?

Yes, some. His father taught school and surveyed.

Surveyed land? What brought them down here?

His father was first born in the United Order. They came down here and he taught school down here for some time. Then they moved to Alton to buy land. They had fields and farmed. It had a lot of oaks on it. They called it Oak Grove Farm.

He taught. Do you remember meeting him?

Oh, yes. His sister lives across the road from us. We were in the same grade in school. When I moved to Alton, we became friends. I used to go to their place a lot.

How much older was Alan than you?

Nine years. One of the nurses that came to see him when he was unable, said I was the envy of other girls because I married an older man?

Were you?
Well, I was seventeen and he was twenty-six when we got married. We got married in the St. George Temple on November 1939. He was in the CCC camp down there when it was quite a small place.

MH: He worked in the CC's down in St. George?

TC: He did on Cedar Mountain.

MH: What kind of projects did he do then?

TC: Well building things, like dams in the creeks and several things like that. But he, when he first went in, he built tent rooms. They built a floor at the CCC camp then put a tent above the floor. It was what they lived in.

MH: So, he built the housing?

TC: He just worked in the CCC Camp building the floors. It was Duck Creek where they had the camp.

MH: I think of the influence of the CC's, all the people who came in from out of state, then employed people from around here to. But it changed things because some of the local gals married the CC boys and some of them stayed and some went away.

TC: We had the store in Alton. Twice a man came to our store and asked about where the CCC camp was. There was a canyon up out of Alton that they call Rush Canyon. There was a CCC camp up there. And then there was a CCC camp up in Main Canyon where we moved when we first came to Alton, where the sawmill was. Twice we had a man come in and ask us if they might could go and see where these camps were because they had been in the camps when they were younger. When some of the boys from up at Main Canyon were from New York,
from the Bronx. They would ask us things on the streets and we couldn’t understand because they talked so much different than we did.

MH: They had such a strong accent? That is quite an experience. Was it an exciting time with the CCC boys around?

TC: It was kind of. They liked to come to dances and they participated in programs. I don’t think any girls from Alton were involved with them. There is an old ranch house, the Heaton ranch house up out of Alton. The Johnson family lived there. It had quite an apple orchard. The girls used to bake apple pies for these boys that came on Sunday afternoon for apple pie.

MH: What a good treat.

TC: It was for them. These kids from the Bronx didn’t know much about country life.

MH: There were big orchards up in Alton? It sounds like it was colder up there than here?

TC: It is. It is really cold. They had so much snow. This little ranch house, there was a polygamist family that lived there. It had quite an orchard. Then there were quite a few people in town that had fruit trees, no big orchards.

MH: A hardy variety of fruit? Then you must remember canning and bottling?

TC: Do I ever. I have done a whole lot of that. My mother taught us to do that. She used to work for people and bottle for them and would take fruit for her work for us to use. We didn’t have money to buy it with. So, that helped us out a bit. When I would wave people’s hair sometimes they would give me a dozen eggs or a pound of butter to take home to use.

MH: How did you learn to wave people’s hair?
I just stood in front of the mirror and tried it on me.

MH: What did you use to wave?

TC: Bobby pins. Twist a pin curl up there and hold it with a bobby pin.

MH: Would you cut hair?

TC: No, I never did cut hair. I never tried to cut hair even on these boys. I spoiled one. I used to wave people’s hair. Sometimes, when they had a dance, I would wave hair all day. For a dime or a quarter or something else I could use.

MH: Did they ever have movies up in Alton?

TC: Yes, they used to, sometimes people would bring them in to show, but we didn’t have a movie theatre. They just showed them at the church house. In ’39 when we were courting, Kay Heywood from Panguitch used to bring the shows over, the show to Alton.

MH: Do you remember any particular ones?

TC: I don’t. Allen and I went to them usually.

MH: If you and Allen were courting, maybe you weren’t so interested in the movies.

TC: There wasn’t too much entertainment to go to if you didn’t make your own. Usually went to the movies.

MH: What would the girls do? Go over to each other’s houses and listen to music. Did you have parties at your houses?

TC: Oh, yes. We used to have parties and make candy. Divinity and taffy and fudge. We decided to have a candy making party and we would each furnish an item to go in it. Some would furnish the cream and some the sugar or the butter.

MH: Did you make your own clothes?
TC: Yes, we did a lot. My mother sewed for people some, but we took 4H classes when they were available and sewed. I liked to make lots of doll clothes at first. That was how I learned to sew.

MH: Those are tiny though.

TC: I know it.

MH: Did you have a doll collection?

TC: Oh, no. We just played with dolls and I made dresses for them.

MH: Where would you get your material?

TC: Usually you ordered from Sears or Montgomery or Chicago Mail Order were the names of the companies that you would send to. If we wanted a new dress for Friday night, if we were careful and got the order in the mail on Monday morning we could have the dress there to wear on Friday night.

MH: Wow, that is good service. (Laughter)

TC: Now, when you order something why they say it takes four to six weeks to receive it.

MH: How old were you when you went to Pennsylvania?

TC: We went to Pennsylvania in 1988.

MH: All your kids were gone then?

TC: This one was on a mission in Hawaii.

MH: Did you get to go to Hawaii to pick him up?

TC: Yes, we went to pick him up.

MH: Did you like Hawaii?
It was beautiful. My daughter, Irene, is a good businesswoman. She said she would make all the arrangements if she could with us. So, she went with us and it was easy for her because she owns her own bookkeeping company. Right now she is in income tax season 'til the 15th of April.

No, kidding! You don't even talk to them. We have one, my brother-in-law, who also does taxes.

She made all the arrangement; the airplane tickets and rented the motels and cars. When Elder Kakuchi released him from his mission, Lewis drove us all over Hawaii. Elder said, "Take care of him and watch him close." He was a funny little man. Lewis drove us places he had been and taught people, places he couldn't go visit while he was doing missionary work. So, he got to see quite a bit more of Hawaii.

Did you go on several islands?

Oh, we went all over. Lewis worked on five of the islands. The last few months of his mission he was escort for Elder Kakuchi. Jay went to Thailand. He is a Thai linguist for the National Guard. Dean went to Switzerland/ Geneva and Kenneth to California/ San Diego. These guys, Barton, Burton and Blane, went to Australia.

Did they go together, cause they were the twins?

Yes, but they were far apart when they went got to Australia. They both went to Australia and they were there ten months then Blane got a mission call and he went there too. For fifteen months they were all three in Australia on a mission. Melvin went to a California mission when there were only two California
missions. He worked some in Phoenix and Las Vegas when he went on a mission there. Ten years later, when Kenneth went on a mission in the same area, there were six missions in the same area.

MH: Now what do you do? How do you stay busy?

TC: Well, I did a lot of handwork while at the Pennsylvania Harrisburg Mission. My husband worked with the ward books in Pennsylvania too. My husband was ward clerk in Alton for twenty-five years. He worked on the church books in the ward house and I spent some time alone, so I did a lot of handwork out there in our apartment.

MH: I see you have a lot of pretty crocheting.

TC: Pillow cases, scarves and crocheting. I made a big afghan and I gave it to the woman we taught, a woman and her two children. We saw them get baptized.

MH: Good. I really appreciated talking with you. I haven’t interviewed anyone from Widstoe yet. Do you remember any of the families from there or were you too young?

TC: Let’s see. There were the Ackerman’s down the street. There were the Taylors who lived close to us. And the Adairs. Mrs. Adair was sister to Alan’s mother so he had cousins there. My best friend in Widstoe was Marie Sandberg who is now Marie Memmot.

MH: Well, I want to thank you for letting me interview you.
I hereby give to the Utah State Historical Society the tapes and transcriptions of the interview/interviews recorded on **February 28, 2002** and grant the Utah State Historical Society the right to make the tapes and transcriptions available to the public for such educational and research purposes that are in accordance with the policies and procedures of the Society's Utah History Information Center.

**Narrator**: Twila Campbell Cox  
**Address**: PO Box 56  
**Orderville, Utah 84758**

**Signature**: Twila Cox  
**Date**: July 13, 2002

**Interviewer**: Marsha Holland  
**Address**: PO Box 132  
**Tropic, Utah 84776**

**Signature**: Marsha Holland  
**Date**: 6-30-02