This interview is part of the Southern Oral History Program collection at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Other interviews from this collection are available online through www.sohp.org and in the Southern Historical Collection at Wilson Library.

N.2. Undergraduate Internship Program: Spring 2013

Interview N-0012
Margaret Anne Dickson Fogleman
25 March 2013

Abstract – p. 2
Field Notes – p. 3
Transcript – p. 5
ABSTRACT – ANNE DICKSON FOGLEMAN

Anne Dickson Fogleman is a community activist and volunteer living in Chapel Hill, NC, who helped to spearhead the creation of the Speaker Ban marker on the UNC-Chapel Hill campus. Her brother, Paul Dickson III, led student efforts to overturn the Speaker Ban Law in North Carolina as UNC-Chapel Hill Student Body President in the 1965-66 school year. She was interviewed as part of a Southern Oral History Program undergraduate intern project on the Speaker Ban at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. She reflects on her childhood in Raeford, North Carolina as well as her three siblings. Fogleman recalls political discussions around the dinner table and political activism as a civic duty in the family. She discusses the importance of First Amendment Rights to her family, their parents’ support of Paul’s activism, and the influence of Paul’s age on his activism. She recalls attending UNC-Greensboro while her brother, Paul, was at UNC-Chapel Hill and the strict rules for women at UNC-Greensboro. Fogleman recalls the effect of the Speaker Ban Law on UNC-Greensboro as well as the idea for the Speaker Ban monument and the monument’s dedication. She also recounts her own activism, including her participation as a Fayetteville City Councilwoman in a march on Washington protesting the Iraq War and her volunteer work throughout the years.
FIELD NOTES—ANNE DICKSON FOGLEMAN

Interviewee: Anne Dickson Fogleman

Interviewer: Anna Faison

Interview Date: March 25, 2013

Location: Living room of Fogleman’s home, Chapel Hill, NC

Length: One audio file, 1:30:59

THE INTERVIEWEE. Anne Dickson Fogleman is a community activist and volunteer living in Chapel Hill, NC. Born Anne Dickson in 1946 in Raeford, NC, she grew up with one older brother, Paul “Pete” Dickson III, and one younger brother, Robert “Bubba” Dickson. Her brother Paul led student efforts to overturn the Speaker Ban Law in North Carolina as UNC-Chapel Hill Student Body President in the 1965-66 school year. In the fall of 1964, Anne entered the University of North Carolina at Greensboro, where she was a student for approximately two years before deciding to discontinue her education. After leaving school, Fogleman worked for an airline and as a legal assistant before marrying Louis Fogleman. During their time living in Fayetteville, NC, Anne worked briefly for the Fayetteville Observer and completed three terms on the Fayetteville City Council. As a councilwoman, Fogleman traveled with her brother Robert in 2003 to Washington to attend a rally to protest the Bush administration’s threatened use of military force against Iraq. Throughout the years, Fogleman has also worked as a volunteer for Junior League and many other organizations. After she and her husband moved to Chapel Hill, Anne collaborated with her brother Robert to have a marker for student activism against the Speaker Ban placed on the wall separating McCorkle Place and Franklin Street. They approached President Bill Friday in 2010 and then met with Chancellor Holden Thorp in 2011. The marker, partially funded by Fogleman and her brother, was dedicated on October 12, 2011.

THE INTERVIEWER. Anna Faison is an undergraduate Southern Studies major at UNC-Chapel Hill. Anna is an undergraduate intern with the Southern Oral History Program.

DESCRIPTION OF THE INTERVIEW. The interview was conducted in the living room of Fogleman’s home in Chapel Hill, NC, a spacious room furnished with couches, a coffee table, and a rug. Prior to the interview, Fogleman and the interviewer discussed the Southern penchant for storytelling. The interviewee expressed worry that she could not contribute much and that she had memory problems. Though she struggled to remember many details throughout the interview, Fogleman related what she could remember willingly and openly, telling stories about herself, her family, and her brother Paul Dickson III in an interview that lasted almost an hour and a half. A sizable portion of the interview centered around discussion of her brother Paul’s personality and motivations in his activism. Throughout the interview, there were brief background noises of papers shuffling, a clock chiming, and Fogleman’s yellow lab, Bella,
running into the room and thumping the floor with her tail. There were a few small interruptions, once when the breeze blew the front door open, once when Bella first ran into the room, and once when Fogleman got up to ask her husband Louie for clarification on her answer to an interview question. Following the interview, Fogleman and the interviewer went into the hallway to look at old family photos. Afterwards they signed paperwork and discussed oral history. The interviewee said she valued being able to participate because it helped her to remember her brother Paul. The interviewee said yes to a copy of the audio but did not want to review her transcript.
ANA FAISON: So I guess we can go ahead and get started if you’re okay with that.

ANNE DICKSON FOGLEMAN: Okay.

AF: I just have to introduce myself. Hello, this is Anne Faison. Today is Monday March 25th and would you like to introduce yourself.

ADF: Anne Dickson Fogleman.

AF: And we are here at her home in Chapel Hill. We’re just going to start with something really simple.

ADF: Okay.

AF: Would you mind telling me a little bit about your childhood and what it was like growing up?

ADF: It was the quintessential southern childhood in the late [19]40s, early [19]50s. Small town and everybody knew everybody. And there was no such thing as a dangerous situation as far as children wandering around by themselves, and we could walk to the library or to the drugstore and sit on a stool and get a soft drink and stop by Daddy’s office and say hello and it was, it was idyllic as far as--. But then I didn’t have anything to compare it to.

AF: And you had two siblings.

ADF: I actually had three siblings.
AF: Three siblings.

ADF: I had an older brother who was Paul the third, known as Pete and I was next, and then there was a girl between me and my younger brother, and she only lived for a couple of years. My younger brother is now living in Carrboro with his wife. So it’s nice to have him close by.

AF: And that’s Robert, right?

ADF: Yes. Otherwise known as Bubba.

AF: Bubba.

ADF: Yeah. [Laughing]

AF: So you said you would call Paul, Pete.

ADF: Uh huh.

AF: Was that just a family nickname or did other people call him that too?

ADF: Everybody did. He was known as Pete until he went away, graduated from high school, he was Pete to everybody. That was for an uncle, one of my father’s uncles, who was an old bachelor.

AF: I was watching earlier this documentary from the [19]90s called Crossroads on the Hill. You’re briefly interviewed and you were talking about how Paul never met a stranger and that was his personality. Can you think of any specific instances where that was really apparent?

ADF: Oh gosh. I know there are some, but I’m drawing a blank at this point. He was just your basic lab puppy. [Laughing] Just like Bella when you came in the room. He greeted everybody that way. [Coughs] Excuse me. I’m sorry I can’t think of any specifics.

AF: That’s totally fine. I also know you came from a journalistic family. Your dad, correct me if I’m wrong, he was the editor and publisher of the News-Journal in Raeford. So
growing up do you think that your upbringing, do you think that your parents taught you anything about the value of the first amendment or political awareness?

ADF: Oh yeah. Yeah. Our breakfast table, supper table was the site of lots of political discussion and people would be slamming their fists on the table and coffee cups rattling and that sort of thing. Especially as my brother got older and was sort of forming his political positions he would, he and daddy would thrash things out. I think probably I had more of an awareness of politics than most of my cohort just purely because of what supper was like and these discussions.

For a long time, Daddy kept a stack of index cards on the table, and at supper he would pull the card. They were face down, and he’d pull the card off the top, flipped it over and it was a topic. And he had probably thirty of these cards, and they were all current events or something pertaining to. So that would be our topic for discussion at supper that night. So it really gave us an awareness of current events, what was driving current events.

FA: Wow. Do you remember any of the topics that you talked about?

ADF: Oh he didn’t shy away from anything. We talked about race relations and financial issues. I didn’t take much of that in. That’s not my long suit, financial issues. Some of them were very current things going on right then, but then a lot of them were big picture sort of topics.

AF: So I saw that it seems like you really were a family of politically active people. Paul did so much in his life even though he only lived to thirty, and I know that you were on the Fayetteville city council, and I was reading also an article from a few years back when you and your brother Robert were speaking out against the war in Iraq. So I was wondering, do you think that goes back to the supper time conversations?
ADF: Oh definitely, yeah. The seeds were sown early. I was on the city council when they had a huge march in Washington against the war. And so Bubba and I and Vicky, Bubba’s wife, and a friend drove to Washington to that rally, and it was just great, this huge mass of people. There were reporters wandering around, and we were talking to one of them just casually, “Where are you from and what do you do?” Da-da-da-da-da. And it got into a wire service, and it got back to Fayetteville, and there I was on the city council in a military town, and I’m in Washington protesting the war. It didn’t go over very well. But—

AF: How long—oh sorry go ahead.

ADF: No, there were a lot of people who thought it was great thing and then there were a lot of people who didn’t like it worth a toot.

AF: How long were you on city council?

ADF: Two terms, three terms, something like that. No more than six years, roughly.

AF: So I want to go back, if it’s okay, to the 1960s and June of 1963, the Speaker Ban law is past. Do you remember when you first heard about it?

ADF: No. And that’s, until it affected or involved my brother, it didn’t have a whole lot of relevance for me. And it may have been discussed at the supper table, but I don’t remember it. But I do recall there was a card. One of the cards on the breakfast table was about the Speaker Ban, but it wasn’t the issue at that point because it didn’t directly involve us.

AF: And so you went to UNC-Greensboro. Is that right?

ADF: You have done your homework.

AF: Yeah. [Laughing]

ADF: I’m impressed.

AF: How did you decide that you were going to go there?
ADF: My mother went there. I had a good friend, a childhood friend who was going. She lived in Winston and we decided that we would both and we roomed together. So it worked out very well.

AF: And what kind of things were you involved in while you were in college?

ADF: Very little. Very little. I didn’t get involved at all. I didn’t finish there. I just decided that I was wasting my time and Daddy’s money. I didn’t have a clue as to what I wanted to do. So I dropped out and went off and worked for an airline for a little while. And that was fun until it just got to be drudgery, and then I worked as a legal secretary for several years and then got married. And that was it.

AF: And so you are married to Mr. Louis Fogleman?

ADF: Um hmm.

AF: Do you have any children?

ADF: We have three boys.

AF: Oh wow. Have you ever gotten involved in anything journalistic? Because I know your father was and also both of your brothers worked in journalism.

ADF: I worked for a while for the paper in Fayetteville, the Fayetteville Observer. I've done newsletters for organizations, for the Junior League or something like that. But not really on any kind of big scale or taking on a profession or whatever, no.

AF: So you’re saying that you didn’t really start thinking about the Speaker Ban until your brother became involved in the activism surrounding it. Do you remember him every talking to you about it?
ADF: Not specifically. Mostly I just remember the supper table discussions, and he and Daddy talked about it so much. But I’m afraid I was in Greensboro at UNCG when that was going on for the most part.

AF: Oh okay. So it seems to me kind of like Paul became sort of like a celebrity at the time almost. He was in so many different newspaper articles during 1965 and 1966. Did that filter into Greensboro? Did people there know about it and about him?

ADF: Oh, we’re talking about a long time ago. Not a great deal I don’t think. I just, I really don’t remember. I’m sure there was some discussion but—

AF: It’s okay. I actually brought, I was looking through his student file at UNC and I brought a ( ) of newspaper clippings. I thought this one was pretty interesting. “His class average is only C but he is a political ball of fire.”

ADF: Oh yeah. Yeah, he didn’t set the books on fire, but he stayed so busy. Jim Taylor was our editor at the paper for a while. I mean I’m assuming that this is the same, it’s got a Raeford dateline. So—“won every other non-scholastic honor.” Yeah. [Laughing] He was a people person.

AF: Yeah, one of our other interns did an interview with John Greenbocker who was also involved in Speaker Ban stuff and he described your brother as a political wheeler dealer.

ADF: That’s right. But he was so committed, and he just kind of swept or it felt to me as if he just sort of swept people into the whatever he was trying to do. And that, as I said, it’s been a long time.

AF: And he was in the Air Force for a while before he went to school.

ADF: Um hmm.
AF: Do you feel like that impacted his life in any way or the way he looked at politics or the way he looked at trying to get things done?

ADF: Probably. I would think that he would have more perception than your average undergraduate having been in the Air Force and been in Vietnam, and I would think it would have to sort of play with your perspective a bit.

AF: Yeah.

ADF: He had a girlfriend when he was in Saigon, and her father was the head of the Coca-Cola plant there, and I think they were kind of an item for a while and he wanted to bring her home to Raeford for a visit. And Mama and Daddy discouraged it. They said if she comes here, and you’re the only person she knows, that’s just going to throw the two of you together more, and you need to broaden your perspective. So anyway that was the end of that. But I don’t know where I was going with that.

AF: That’s okay. That’s interesting. Was she Vietnamese?

ADF: No, she was French.

AF: Oh okay.

ADF: And she was gorgeous. But apparently they were very nice people, but I think Mama and Daddy were probably right. That would’ve just, a little too young to get that involved.

AF: So you were talking about how your brother was involved in so many different things when he went to Carolina and won every non-scholastic honor [Laughter].

ADF: Yep.

AF: Was he, and it’s totally fine if you don’t remember, but was he like that from an earlier age like when he was in high school?
ADF: Uh uh. From here. From here. Mama talked about how during the war they were in Raeford, and Daddy was in Europe somewhere and not just then, but his whole life, even when he was this tiny, they would, she would and Pete, would be walking downtown in Raeford and somebody would walk by and Pete would speak. Mama would say, “Pete who was that?” He said, “Friend of mine.” Even in a small town, you know just about everybody but “friend of mine.”

AF: Oh. Could you talk a little bit more about Raeford because I know you said like you never felt unsafe there, and it was such a small town and it seems like everybody knew everybody else.

ADF: I remember one night, I was junior in high school, and Mama and Daddy were away at a press convention, and my grandmother was there, but she was in her room sound asleep, and I was having a slumber party. And there was about five of us and we decided that we would go for a walk downtown. So we had on our little shorty pajamas, which everybody wore at the time, and our Weejun loafers, and our London Fog raincoats over the pajamas, and we go, it wasn’t far at all to Main Street. And we just thought we’d wander down Main Street and look in the windows and whatever. So we were strolling along and it was two o’clock in the morning. One of the policeman came cruising by, “What are you girls doing?” “We’re just out wandering around.” “Think you’d better go on back home. Y’all don’t need to be out here at this time of night.” But it was kind of a Barney Fife moment.

AF: I’m kind of interested in what it was like when you attended UNC-Greensboro. You might not remember too much, but I know that rules were a lot stricter for women at schools then. Was there like a strict dress code or a curfew or anything like that?
ADF: Oh yeah, all of the above. I can remember that on Saturdays, if it was a big football weekend or something, people would show up--. And, of course, we had Saturday classes, and people would show up in class with curlers in their hair and a scarf tied around them and a raincoat, maybe not over their pajamas, but over something that they probably weren’t supposed to be wearing to class. Yeah, it was strict. But not, I think at that point it was really starting to loosen up. The boundaries were being tested a bit, but we had to have, we had to sign out and sign in, had to have permission slips to go off for the weekend and all that.

AF: And the [19]60s was sort of a big time for the American women’s movement, with the formation of the National Organization for Women and a push for greater employment equality in terms of gender. Did any of that affect you or did you see the effects of that movement?

ADF: It was starting but I, it never affected me directly that I’m aware of because I did not finish school at that point. I basically did secretarial work. I worked as a legal secretary for three or four years until I got married, and I thoroughly enjoyed that work and had some great situations and didn’t feel any awareness of any kind of gender discrimination because there weren’t too many men who wanted to be legal secretaries.

AF: Yeah. Also in terms of just the decade of the [19]60s, you were talking about how one of your dinner table topics was race relations. Did you ever encounter any integration protests or any sort of protests in terms of race?

ADF: You mean in Raeford or anywhere?

AF: Yeah, anywhere. In Raeford or in Greensboro.

ADF: No. I didn’t. Of course, the schools were integrated [misspoke, probably meant segregated] the whole time I was going, until I graduated from high school. And then at UNCG it

Interview number N-0012 from the Southern Oral History Program Collection (#4007) at The Southern Historical Collection, The Louis Round Wilson Special Collections Library, UNC-Chapel Hill.
was integrated at that point, and my first year I was on a short hall of a dorm, ground floor, and we had three black girls across the hall from us, and they were just delightful and fun. And we weren’t best friends, but we were friends and had no issues. They were just three girls living across the hall.

AF: I’m also curious about being at a school that was almost entirely all women. What was the social life like? Did you leave campus to go on dates?

ADF: Oh yeah.

AF: Or go to different events to meet men from—

ADF: They did mixers sometimes. I don’t remember participating too much. They didn’t hold a lot of appeal. We did come over here [Chapel Hill] lots of weekends. And of course, there were some fun places in Greensboro, and so guys from here [Chapel Hill] would go over there. It was an active social life. But it wasn’t campus-based. I don’t remember participating in too many social events on campus.

AF: Yeah, I was talking to Jim Medford who went to UNC in the [19]60s, and he was talking about how they had to import women to get dates and bring them in from different women’s colleges around for different social events.

ADF: Right, right, exactly. Yeah, he and my brother were, I don’t know how close they were, but I think they were pretty good friends.

AF: Yeah, I believe they were both in Chi Psi together. So back to Paul’s time as a student at UNC. Do you remember what went through your mind when you realized that your brother was suing the state and the university?

ADF: He spent a lot of time talking with Daddy about that and I guess also talking with McNeill Smith in Greensboro. And when he was meeting with Mac Smith, he would generally,
and he was dating my roommate, so he would generally take us out to dinner when he had those meetings. But I don’t remember feeling like “Wow, this is what he’s doing.” I just, it was something that he and Daddy thought needed to be done and—

AF: So it wasn’t really surprising to you.

ADF: Huh, no. No. I was not real focused at that point in my life.

AF: You said that he was dating your roommate.

ADF: Um hmm.

AF: Did he meet her through you?

ADF: Um hmm.

AF: Oh okay.

ADF: Yeah and they went together for a pretty good while, and she and I are still good friends, but I think probably her parents didn’t like the idea of her being involved with an activist type.

AF: But it seems like your family was totally fine with the activist type.

ADF: Oh yeah. Oh yeah. Oh yeah. It was seen almost as civic duty. If you see something that needs changing, then change it.

AF: So you—would you say that your parents had a lot of influence on the way Paul went about taking care of the Speaker Ban?

ADF: Um hmm. Oh yeah, he would go home, and he and Daddy would have long, long conversations about the whole business, and I think Daddy was very encouraging seeing that it’s about as basic as issues get in this country. This is going after one of our basic tenets, freedom of speech. Of course, that whole business with the wall and all that, just brought it to a head, big time. But yeah, Mama and Daddy were very supportive and encouraging.
AF: Yeah, John Greenbocker was telling this story in his interview a few weeks [ago] about some former students who had been to Cuba went to Everett Dorm, where Paul was president of the dorm at that time I think. And were speaking about their trip to Cuba and talking about Communism and so—

ADF: Pro or con?

AF: I think pro, so Greenbocker was taking notes on an envelope or something, and somebody else in the dorm tried to take his notes away. I think [they thought] “Oh, we’re going to get in trouble because of the Speaker Ban law.” And he said that Paul, because he came from a journalist family, kind of knew you couldn’t, you wouldn’t take someone’s notes away from them and got the notes back and gave them to Greenbocker and he was able to publish the story. So do you feel like because your father was a journalist that freedom of speech and freedom of press were especially important--?

ADF: Oh yeah, definitely.

AF: In your family.

ADF: Um hmm. Um hmm. Absolutely.

AF: I was looking at Paul’s alumni file at school, and it seemed like he worked a lot of different jobs after he got out of college. It said that he had worked at I think WSOC-TV as a reporter, and he worked with IBM and then the Fort Bragg Paraglide and the Image Man Printing Company in Fayetteville. Do you think—?

ADF: Those were both part of the family business.

AF: Oh okay.

ADF: The Fort Bragg, the Paraglide was a contract that Daddy had with the Army to publish a newspaper for Fort Bragg. And we did that for years until the Fayetteville paper
decided they wanted the contract, and of course, they were the big daily paper. And so they bid on it and got it. Yeah, then the Image Man was a printing business that was an adjunct of our newspaper office. So all that was kind of connected with the family business.

AF: Do you feel like, and he may not have talked to you about this so I don’t expect, do you feel like he had an idea of what he wanted to do with his life?

ADF: Oh yeah. Yeah, we all felt, didn’t talk about it very much, but it was just sort of a given that he was on track to go to the Senate. [Background noise] And I don’t think I’m being Pollyanna-ish by saying that. I really think that that’s what he had in mind, and I think it was doable. He had made lots of good contacts around the state. I think he presented well, and he probably had the energy to make it happen.

AF: And he was working for Jim Hunt’s campaign for lieutenant governor in 1972.

ADF: Um hmm.

AF: I actually have another newspaper clipping. I just thought I would bring it in. Ah, if I can find it. Here it is. This was published after his death, and it talks about how, “This accident here this past weekend removed from the scene not only a young progressive local community leader, but one of statewide potential.” I think this is in the Fayetteville Observer.

ADF: Yeah.

AF: So you would agree with that.

ADF: Oh yeah. He didn’t make too many bones about it. He had ideas on, about how North Carolina needed to be more progressive, and he wanted to help make it happen.

AF: Do you know in what ways more progressive?

ADF: Basically, I would say just civil rights issues, and that meant civil rights for everybody. Equality across the board and that’s the way we were raised. We were all the same.
Shouldn’t have any doors closed just because of the color of our skin or where you’re from or whatever.

AF: So when you were growing up Raeford, I know you said that the schools were all integrated.

ADF: Oh, no the schools were not integrated while I was there. That came right much later. Yeah. Yeah. No. They weren’t.

AF: But do you remember what the population was like in terms of race?

ADF: It was basically white, black, and Indian, and it was almost equal thirds in the county, which was fascinating, the demographics of it or the social interaction, whatever.

AF: I actually remember seeing in terms of where you’re from that Paul was the first student from Hoke County to become student body president at UNC, which I thought was pretty interesting.

ADF: Well, it’s a small—I think if it’s not the smallest, it’s the next to smallest, but I believe it’s the smallest county in the state. And there’s not a whole lot there. Burlington Industries has a plant, and it may not even be Burlington anymore. Then there was a huge turkey plant, which meant a lot of jobs for uneducated people. And they just closed that and lost hundreds of jobs with that. That’s going to hit the county hard. But that stuff happens. So it’s a poor little county.

AF: And it’s okay if you would like to change the subject, but I was wondering do you remember when you heard about your brother’s death and what went through your mind?

ADF: Oh very well. The picture is just—it was a Saturday morning and the phone rang. And I was this pregnant with my first son, and the phone was on my side of the bed and I answered. And, isn’t that weird? I can’t remember who was on the phone. I guess it was Daddy.
And he said that he needed to speak to Louis, and I handed the phone to Louis, and Daddy told him what happened. And I was just numb. And we got gathered up and drove to Raeford. It’s hard. It was just so hard.

AF: And—

ADF: Daddy was just devastated. He was, he was irrational for a while, just—umm.

AF: I can’t imagine how difficult that must have been.

ADF: It was, I mean it was, it happens. Everybody has tragedies and you just pull yourself up and keep going.

AF: And Paul was thirty at the time, I believe. So you were in your twenties, is that right?

ADF: Um hmm. The timing was very interesting because he was killed, and what, six weeks later our first son was born. So if anything could, well nothing could assuage Pete’s death, but Hal was a big help. Mama and Daddy just adored him and he spent a lot of time with them. I mean if anything could help, that did.

AF: And so you said you had three sons, is that right?

ADF: Um hmm. Um hmm.

AF: So they’re all grown now.

ADF: Um hmm. The baby has just gotten engaged.

AF: Oh wow.

ADF: Yep. He’s an attorney in Raleigh, and the middle one is an architect in New York, and then Hal the oldest is a contractor on the coast. So—

AF: I remember seeing, like you said I’d rather do my homework, and I saw in a Green, a UNC-Greensboro alumni newsletter that you were talking about, it mentioned you had two sons
at the time I think, and then it said you were quote a part-time newspaper editor and a full-time volunteer.

ADF: Um hmm.

AF: So I’m really interested in that full-time volunteer bit, and I was wondering if you could talk a little bit about the kinds of work you’ve been involved in.

ADF: Oh gosh. Well, Junior League, I even taught Sunday school for a while, which is just, I can’t believe I did that. They must’ve been desperate. There were so many organizations in Fayetteville that I got involved with, and I’m drawing a blank. Junior League could eat up a lot of time. Of course city council, well, I’m sorry. I’m just—

AF: It’s really fine.

ADF: It’s just not there. [Cough] Louis could probably rattle off several of them.

AF: I’m kind of interested in your time on city council. Do you remember why you decided to get involved in that?

ADF: There was a reason. And let me see if he [her husband] remembers. Can I get you anything to drink?

AF: No, I’m doing great.

ADF: Okay. [Walks to another room] He can’t remember any better than I can. I think there was some kind of, there was an issue, and there was a group who were trying to railroad something, but I cannot tell you at this point what it was.

AF: But you got involved because there was—

ADF: An issue.

AF: An issue you wanted to take care of essentially.

AF: So what brought you and Louis here to Chapel Hill?

ADF: Well, Bubba lives in Carrboro, and we had published the Fort Bragg newspaper for years and years. In fact, Daddy started it for the military and Louis was running it. And the *Fayetteville Observer* was the big daily newspaper, and they decided they wanted that contract because it was a pretty lucrative contract. And so they bid and we couldn’t, we couldn’t compete with their bid. So it just seemed like a good time to move. My parents were dead at that point. And there was nothing really to hold us in Fayetteville.

AF: And so Mr. Fogleman got involved with the family business as well then.

ADF: Right. Yeah, he’s an attorney, and he’s done some general practice, but when we were in Fayetteville, most of his time was spent as an attorney for the hospital system and then running the Dickson Press. So my brother and his wife had moved up here and Louis and I decided it wasn’t much to hold us in Fayetteville anymore. And it’s been a good move for us.

AF: Yeah, this is a lovely neighborhood.

ADF: It is a nice neighborhood and it’s really convenient. Are you familiar with the old golf course?

AF: No. Not particularly.

ADF: Up here—my understanding is it’s the old country club golf course, and it’s wonderful because we can go down this way and go take the pine needle trail and go up and around and Bella can be off leash the whole time. It’s a wonderful resource, and we didn’t know it was there when we moved. So for people who, and there are lots of us, who are dog walkers, it’s great. Now it’s the Frisbee golf course.

AF: Yeah, I believe that’s part of UNC outdoor education center.

ADF: Yeah, exactly and the tennis courts up there and all and the ropes course and—
AF: So do you see Robert very often?

ADF: Not as much as I'd like to. We do get [together], we were together just the other night. His girls have both moved away from Chapel Hill in the last couple of months, and so we were doing a send-off for one of them. You just get busy and time goes by. But we do, we do get together. We do talk on the phone periodically. So—

AF: One thing I really wanted to ask you about was the Speaker Ban monument on the wall between McCorkle Place and Franklin Street because I know that you and your younger brother were responsible for that, in large part.

ADF: Yeah, we kind of pushed for it a little bit.

AF: So I was wondering when did that idea first come into being?

ADF: That’s hard to say for sure, but I just remember wandering around Chapel Hill. There’s monuments for this and monuments, markers here and everywhere, and it just seemed as though there ought to be something and the wall was the obvious place because that was where the confrontation took place. And it was so easy. Or it felt easy. As though somebody was just waiting for the notion to be thrown out there, and I think there was very little opposition to it. I certainly didn’t hear of much opposition to it.

AF: Yeah, I saw it in an article that I think you first approached President Friday and then talked to the chancellor, and then within about two years, a year it had happened. Why was it important to you to do this and push for this monument to be put up?

ADF: Well, I think freedom of speech is one of the basic tenets of this country, and this was such an obvious effort. So I mean the pictures of all those students just massed in there on McCorkle Place and Jock Lauterer up in the tree taking pictures. It just, it just felt right, and of course, that day, you weren’t here then, but the day that the marker was dedicated was just
wonderful. The weather cooperated and it was a great crowd and [clock ringing] it felt really good.

AF: I saw the video of it and I saw your brother give a speech where, well, he talked about how Paul wrote in his high school yearbook that his ambition was to out-argue everyone in Hoke County.

ADF: [Laughing] Right.

AF: And he also mentioned the student body president inaugural speech in 1965 where he said, he was talking about the Speaker Ban law and he said, I think, “Let no man think we’re afraid to ripple the waters,” something like that. So how did it feel to be there at that ceremony and see that monument for the first time?

ADF: It was wonderful. If I'd had any buttons on, I would’ve busted my buttons. He was very charismatic. I know I’m prejudiced, but he really was. He attracted people like a magnet and iron filings. And he made it look easy. He made doing things like that look easy. It was a wonderful day.

AF: Yeah, I remember seeing video of Paul and thinking gee, he’s so well spoken and well dressed. Everybody was well dressed then.

ADF: Right. But he ran around in a coat and a tie most of the time. It was almost like he was running for office when he wasn’t running for office. He was just laying the groundwork.

AF: Do you feel like the fact that he was a little older at the time and had served in Vietnam and in the Air Force contributed to his ability to do what he did or do you think it was just sort of innate--?
ADF: I think it was probably a combination. I’ve told you he had that outgoing personality and could talk to anybody. But he had a real sense of commitment and wanting to see things changed and for the better.

AF: I’m also interested in--I feel like I’ve been studying the Speaker Ban for a couple of months now. I’ve read a lot and watched a lot of footage. I feel like when you read about Paul Dickson III, he’s kind of presented as this sort of almost mythic figure, one of the greatest students to ever attend UNC. I was wondering, how do you feel about the way Paul is talked about and remembered? Do you feel like he is accurately represented?

ADF: I do. I do. There’s not much discussion these days, but as I said I plead prejudice too. But he worked hard on that. He, as I said I was at UNCG at the time and he was dating my roommate, but he would have planning sessions with McNeill Smith and an attorney in Greensboro here was advising. So he would come over a lot to meet with Mac Smith. It was pretty time consuming I gather. They were working hard on making this thing happen. So I’m glad it paid off.

AF: Do you have any clue how Paul got in touch with McNeill Smith?

ADF: No, I don’t know who would’ve put him on to him. It worked out well, but I don’t have any idea.

AF: I know they were both in the order of the Golden Fleece so I wonder if there was some kind of alumni connection. But I’m not really sure.

ADF: That was probably it and maybe issues like that that, the way his practice is focused. I don’t know that. I’m just surmising.

AF: He was meeting a lot with President Friday at the time. Do you remember, did you know about that when it was going on?
ADF: I knew they were meeting, but I didn’t know that it was as clandestine as it was. Mr. Friday told me one day when we were talking about it that they would meet. There was a certain place on campus where they would meet after dark to plot their strategy. And Mr. Friday said, “I told him one night, I said, ‘Paul, if either one of us gets caught,’ he says, ‘we’re going to be in a heap of trouble.’” Oh I miss him. He was a great fellow.

AF: Did you know him well?

ADF: Not well. No. We had that bond of my brother, and he drove from Chapel Hill to Raeford for the funeral and he got there late and when we came out of the church, he was standing at the bottom of the steps kind of off to the side. He didn’t want to go in late and cause a disturbance. That’s just the kind of thoughtful, grand person that he was. I hate that he’s gone, but happens to the best of us.

AF: So when y’all were working on the Speaker Ban monument, did you and your younger brother have any involvement in sort of determining the language of the marker and what it would look like?

ADF: Uh uh. No, I don’t think so at all.

AF: Okay. But did you help to fund it?

ADF: A little bit, yeah, we did.

AF: So essentially y’all just came to the university officials and said, “We think this is a good idea” and they kind of rolled with it.

ADF: Yeah. As I said, I talked with Mr. Friday and also talked with Holden and yeah, they both thought it was a fine idea. [Side conversation] Oh dear.

(): Hello.

ADF: Bella, sorry. [Side conversation—including the dog out]
AF: Have you had her for long?

ADF: Yeah, she’ll be five in June.

AF: Oh wow.

ADF: And she’s just a joy, an absolute joy. But you can tell, she’s indulged something terrible.

AF: One thing I was thinking about as I was researching and reading is that many students now and in the future will learn about your older brother as a big part of university history, and I was wondering if you could tell those students anything about Paul, what would you say to them?

ADF: He did what he thought was right. If he saw something that was taking advantage of anybody or he thought needed to be rectified, he didn’t have any problem jumping in. And I don’t mean to make him sound like a saint on a crusade because he was certainly not that. He was a hell-raiser. He had a good time. He knew how to party. But it’s almost like he was on a crusade. He was just wanted things to be done right and wanted people to be treated properly.

AF: I’ve also read that when he was working with Students for a Democratic Society and other student leaders to get these speakers, Wilkinson and Aptheker, to come to campus. I don’t know if these were his words or something somebody else said, but that he wasn’t really interested in communism, he was just interested letting people hear all sides of an issue.

ADF: Right. That was it. Yeah, I think that’s the crux of the matter right there, is denying anybody the right to say whatever they believe and that’s what his fight was about.

AF: Now you said he was sort of a hell raiser.

ADF: He enjoyed a party. He enjoyed partying. He had girlfriends strung all over the place. But he could be very focused when he needed to be. [Dog scratching]
AF: Yeah, go ahead. [Getting dog in and settled] Do you remember what you two would do when he would visit you in Greensboro?

ADF: Generally he was coming to see my roommate so he would very sweetly take both of us out to dinner and then they would take me back to the dorm. They would go off on their own.

AF: And did you see, when you and your younger brother were working on getting this monument made, did you see it as sort of a way to memorialize Paul and the work that he did?

ADF: Um hmm.

AF: And I think, I believe your brother also said in his speech about it at the ceremony that he hoped it “will stand as a beacon against the fog of oppressive thought that brought forth the Speaker Ban and a reminder that the students must be vigilant and courageous.” Was that also in your thinking at the time?

ADF: Yeah, I think. It was just the right thing to do. Do you know who Jesse Helms is?

AF: Yes.

ADF: Yeah, in fact this was the first time I ever heard Bubba use profanity. It was after the news one night, and Jesse Helms had made a statement in his viewpoint editorial on TV that night that what Pete was doing was not right and it showed that he hadn’t been raised right that he would do something like that. And Bubba was sitting on the side of his bed saying, “God damned son of a bitch, can’t talk about my brother like that.” It was really cute. He was probably all of about fourteen or so.

AF: That was the first time you’d ever heard him curse.

ADF: He idolized Pete and the idea that somebody would talk about him. [Talking to the dog]
AF: So do you think your brother’s death at an early age--do you think that impacted the way you view life or the way that you went about raising your sons?

ADF: Yeah, probably to a degree. I was so young at the time. But boom, it can be over just like that. *Carpe diem* [seize the day]. But at the same time, *carpe diem*, but not in the “hoop it up” stage, but *carpe diem* “do what you can do improve things.” Stand up for the other guy and--.

AF: She just loves your attention [talking about dog].

ADF: Yeah. That’s all she wants. She gets in bed with Louis. They read the *Wall Street Journal* together. I think his death had a big impact on both of us and that’s probably why I was on the city council and why I’ve done a lot of things. He kind of opened the door. The march in Washington when we drove up there, all the way to Washington and back in a day. That had to have been something that I thought he would’ve done. I wouldn’t have fired off and done that by myself.

AF: Do you remember what that march was like?

ADF: It was just, it sounds trite, but it was truly a sea of people. I’ve never seen that many people in one place. And it was very upbeat. People were so united. It was invigorating.

AF: And this was to protest the war in Iraq, was that right?

ADF: Um hmm.

AF: Could you describe what it was like to be there, like what kind of day it was, like what the atmosphere was like?

ADF: Obviously, it was dry. I don’t have any recollection of any sort of precipitation. It was chilly. But it was just, everybody seemed glad to be there. It was sort of a “waving the flag” kind of atmosphere. We’re all in this together sort of.
AF: Who did you drive up there with?

ADF: My brother and his wife and a good friend of theirs. We all, except for Vicky, we all grew up in Raeford together. So there were four of us.

AF: And so you said you don’t feel like that’s something you would’ve done if not for your older brother?

ADF: Probably not. Although Bubba and Vicky are five years younger, and they’re of that age where, or they were at the age when there were so many protests going on all over the world about—it started with Vietnam and then Iraq and whatever. They were more into that sort of thing than I was. I was a lot more mainstream. But this just felt like something that needed to be done, but I wasn’t going to make it a regular thing. That was like being pulled through a hedge, drive up there and back.

AF: The News-Journal in Raeford is still being published. Is that right?

ADF: Um huh.

AF: Is that Robert’s doing?

ADF: We have a young man down there who runs it for us. I think Hoke County is about to be subsumed by Cumberland County. I think Fayetteville is just growing out that way. It’s pretty much a bedroom community for Fayetteville. So I don’t know how long the paper’s going to be viable. Little weekly papers are dying.

AF: Have you been to Raeford recently or not for a while?

ADF: Uh uh. No, I haven’t been for a while. But it’s changing dramatically.

AF: Well, I think I’m about all out of questions, but is there anything, I have plenty of time, so is there anything I didn’t ask that you thought I would or that you would like to add or you wanted to say?
ADF: I think you’ve been very thorough. I’m impressed.

AF: Well, thank you so much for all your time.

ADF: I have enjoyed it. It’s nice to talk about this and have it refreshed. I don’t want to forget. Why don’t you go find Louis? Go see what Louis’ doing? [Talking to dog]

AF: Do you think about Paul often, or Pete, as you call him?

ADF: Yeah, I guess I probably do in various contexts. Just little things trigger memories. He was a ladies’ man, and if there was anything funny about the whole situation when he died, it was the fact that there were two or three girls who showed up and each of them thought that she was the one.

AF: Oh.

ADF: And we’re trying to keep them separated. Somebody’s in the family room and somebody’s in the living room. That was interesting. But yeah, I think about him right much, just little things trigger something. I don’t sit around and ponder.

AF: What sort of things trigger those memories?

ADF: Mostly little things. Being here in Chapel Hill is the main thing. I have fun speculating sometimes about what he’d be doing if he were here. What if--?

AF: What do you think he would be doing? And obviously this is just speculation.

ADF: Yeah, completely. Well, I do think that he would’ve gone to the Senate and he would still be there fighting against those guys who are trying to ruin things right now.

AF: With the budget.

ADF: Golly.
AF: Yeah. I believe I remember Pat McCrory was sort of attacking the idea of a liberal arts education and talking about how state funds should be funding occupational training, and I imagine Paul might have a few things to say about that.

ADF: Yeah, it’s just so narrow-minded, and so I've got mine, you go get yours. He was going to look after the little guy.

AF: Is there anything about from your life that you’d like to tell me? Because I know my purpose in coming here was to talk about your brother, but I would love to hear anything about anything about your life you’d like to say.

ADF: I think you know the meaty parts of my life with Louis and the boys and life is good. You’re from Aiken. Are you familiar with Simpsonville? This is completely off the subject.

AF: That’s fine.

ADF: I’m getting a kitten from a woman in Simpsonville. Wonder how long a ride that’s going to be. About three or four hours?

AF: Um, Simpsonville. Yeah, that’s about right. Probably three or four hours.

ADF: I have a Siamese. I’ve always had a Siamese, and my last one was about a month shy of her twenty-first birthday when she died. So the house feels mighty empty without her. So we’re going to re-up.

AF: Have you owned pets for a while now?

ADF: Oh yeah. Couldn’t live without them.

AF: Yeah, when Bella was jumping on me, I was like, “It’s not a big deal.” My ( ) has this dog that’s a little jumping bean. He likes to jump up and lick your face.
ADF: Ooh. Well, Bella does too given the opportunity. Yeah, I can’t imagine life without animals.

AF: One thing to cycle back a little that I should’ve asked earlier is I know you said, you don’t remember being very aware of the Speaker Ban until, aside from your brother’s involvement. But one thing we’ve been really curious about is a lot of people see the Speaker Ban law as specifically an attack on Chapel Hill and its reputation as this bastion of liberalism.

ADF: Communism and—

AF: Yeah. Communism and integration, but I know it applied to UNC-Greensboro and I think NC State as well.

ADF: Yeah, the whole system.

AF: And so I know in [19]65 faculty in Greensboro threatened to resign if the law wasn’t overturned. Do you remember hearing about the law when you were on campus or in your classes?

ADF: I do, but not, it wasn’t a huge issue. There wasn’t anywhere near the brouhaha that there was here. Of course being what a freshman or a sophomore in college you’re not really attuned, or I wasn’t politically attuned at that point.

AF: I know you said you would come here for social events. Can you think of any specific examples of events that you came to or times that you visited Chapel Hill?

ADF: Mostly football weekends.

AF: Oh okay.

ADF: Lots of that.

AF: And would you come to visit your brother or—
ADF: No, I'd generally have a date and come over for the ballgame and have supper and party and then either spend the night or go back to Greensboro.

AF: Okay. Well, thank you so much.

ADF: I've enjoyed it.

AF: I've enjoyed it too. Is there anything else you’d like to add?

ADF: I can’t imagine what it would be. I think you have been remarkably thorough.

AF: Did you say you had some photos?

ADF: I do. Let me think about where they would be. [Walking off/opening and closing drawers] This was his hood from—[Drawers opening and closing]

AF: [Conversation from a distance] You made it sound like you have some photos hanging up or something.

ADF: Oh yeah. That’s exactly where we need to go.

AF: I would love to see those. Do you mind if [I] bring this with me?

ADF: Not at all. [Walking]

AF: Oh wow.

ADF: Let’s see if I can remember. This is my father and his father and me, and that’s Louis as a little boy. These are Louis’ grandparents. This is an ancestor of mine whose name is Margaret Duvaughn, and she came to this country from France, and it was at a time when women weren’t doing that, and so she dressed as her husband’s page and came to this country. I just love that story. And these are my mother’s maternal grandparents, and this is her paternal grandfather and then this was, you’ve probably seen that. That was a class picture.

AF: Um hmm.

ADF: And this is taken at one Thanksgiving.
AF: Is that Robert?

ADF: Uh huh, and Louis and our three boys. And then that’s Bubba’s wife and their two girls and then my parents.

AF: Who are these baby photos of?

ADF: That’s Hal, our oldest, and Dickson, the little one. And Paul, the baby.

AF: So I guess he was the fourth Paul in relation to your family.

ADF: Right. Exactly.

AF: Oh well. I actually saw a funny picture. I was looking at the 1966 yearbook.

ADF: Oh, the Yawn.

AF: Yeah, the Yawn.

ADF: The Yawn. And the way they juxtaposed it with graduation. That was wonderful. And that’s, that was the marker dedication.

AF: Oh wow. I see you have it framed. It’s really cool.

ADF: I wanted the children to be able to remember it.

AF: Do you remember seeing this photo when it was taken, like after it was taken?

ADF: Yeah, it was on the front page of the *Daily Tarheel* as I recall. And actually in some of the state papers too, I think.

AF: I’ve always wondered about this sign.

ADF: Dan—

AF: Dan K. Moore’s—

ADF: Dan Moore’s Wall.

AF: Chapel Hill Wall.

ADF: He was the governor at the time. I don’t think he had any problem with it at all.
AF: I know it was supposed to sort of represent the Berlin Wall.

ADF: Right. Right.

AF: But I always wondered who made that sign, who came up with that idea.

ADF: I don’t know. I’ve never heard.

AF: So this seems like it was a very formal sort of reverent event in a way, just looking at these--

ADF: Oh yeah, the dedication was.

AF: Oh yeah not the [Laughing] not that confrontation.

ADF: No, it was--.

AF: The wall.

ADF: But it was upbeat. It was good. It was great day.

AF: That’s really cool. Do you remember seeing this photo and what you thought when you sort of comprehended what that had been like?

ADF: It looked like it would’ve been probably a fun place to be.

AF: Yeah.

ADF: I thought it was very clever the way they did it, that he was standing on public property so there wasn’t a thing that anybody could do. So--

AF: Well, thank you so much. This is great. I wish I had photos like this of my family.

ADF: Dig around in a drawer somewhere at home. They’re probably there.

AF: But if you ever do, I know you were sort of searching for other photos. If you ever do come across anything that you think is interesting, we’d love to see it.

ADF: Okay. Okay.

AF: I’m going to turn this off now.
ADF: All right.

END OF INTERVIEW

Transcribed by L. Altizer, May 12, 2013

Edited by Sydney Lopez, May 29, 2017

Edited by Lauren Bellard, June 20, 2017