Elza Bond 1926-2020 (s/o **Mort Bond**) Phone call 3-21-2012 with **JC Porter**

513-508-1988 married **Louise Hall** (daughter of **Tom Hall**)

JC: **Elza Bond**, 513-508-1988 married **Louise Hall**, daughter of **Tom Hall, Elza** is a son of **Mort Bond**, who helped build **Garvin (Ridge Church**)...

Elza: Hello.

JC: Hello. Is this **Elza Bond**?

Elza: Yes it is.

JC: Hi **Elza**. This is **JC Porter** in **Indiana**. How are you doing?

Elza: Oh, I'm doing pretty good for an old man. (laughing)

JC: Do you have a few minutes to talk?

Elza: Well, right now I am in Walmart with my wife.

JC: Oh are you? Ok, so you are on your cell phone at Walmart.

Elza: Could you call back in about a half an hour, if that would be convenient for you?

JC: I can maybe do that. I had a couple of **Garvin Ridge** questions for you.

Elza: OK. I've got time for that.

JC: You mean in a half hour, or now?

Elza: Now. I can probably answer that.

JC: OK. If we get to where it is awkward being there in the store, just let me know. I wanted to tap into your memory about **Garvin Ridge**. (1:14) Do you remember one of the pastors was **Russell Patton** who was shot.

Elza: Yeah, I remember him.

JC: Yeah. What do you remember about that?

Elza: Well, not a whole lot. I guess they were driving up 60 up through there by **Globe** somewhere. Somebody shot and a bullet ricocheted and hit him I think is what happened. The way I heard it.

JC: We found a newspaper article about that. That is what it said too, but it also said the suspect would probably be arrested pretty soon.

Elza: I never heard what they ever done about that. That has been a long time ago.

JC: Yes it has. 1938.

Elza: Yeah. Let me see. I was 12 years old then. As a matter of fact, I'll be 86 Friday. The Lord has been good to me.

JC: Yep. Very good. Was **Russell Patton** the current pastor at the time that accident happened?

Elza: Yes he was.

JC: OK. So that was the end of him being pastor? I know he lived for a while after that.

Elza: He lived a while. I don't remember how long. But that was the end of him being pastor there. I don't remember who took over then, cause we lived down at Olive Hill at the time. We left the **Ridge** when I was 7 years old. Then I was 15 when we moved back up there.

JC: Oh, OK. So you left the **Ridge** at 7 and...

Elza: Moved over to **James Chapel**.

JC: OK.

Elza: I don't know if you know where that is or not.

JC: I've heard of that. I think I might have been there. So you started attending **James Chapel** for a while.

Elza: Yeah.

JC: Then when you were 15 years old, you came back to **Garvin Ridge**.

Elza: Yeah. We moved back into **Olive Hill**. We lived over at **James Chapel** two years, then our house burned over there. We moved back into **Olive Hill** and rented around there till I was 15. My dad built a new house up there on the **Ridge**. We moved back up there.

JC: So did you remember **Lenny Estes**, the pastor?

Elza: Slightly, I remember.

JC: He's the pastor...

Elza: **Estes** (estes) is the way I believe they pronounced it. **Lenny Estes**. Yeah, I remember that, but I don't remember.

JC: Was he the pastor right before **Russell Patton**?

Elza: I'm not sure about that. I don't think he was. Might have been too. But I'm not sure. When we moved back up there, I believe it was '41, a man by the name of **Weedman** was pastor there at that time.

JC: OK. So that was in 1941.

Elza: Yeah.

JC: I think your daughter sent us some pictures of him doing a baptismal service. Pastor **Weedman.** Yeah, I think maybe you had a couple pictures. There is one of them on the wagon. Six of seven people on a wagon. Then there was a bunch of them in the creek getting baptized, having a baptismal service. So, you don't really remember that pastor **Lenny Estes** then?

Elza: No, I just remember the name. I don't remember anything about him.

JC: OK. And your dad was **Mort Bond**, right?

Elza: Right.

JC: And he helped build the church.

Elza: Yeah, he did.

JC: We heard the story that they were having revival at **Globe** and they got locked out of the church, and they came up there and started having church in the **Garvin Ridge School House**.

Elza: I don't remember being locked out at **Globe.** I know they did start. I think it was 1930 they built the schoolhouse there. And then it wasn't too long after that. **Jack Tackett** was called to preach, and they got the schoolhouse. They let them have the schoolhouse. They had a revival in there. I think about 20 some people got saved.

JC: Is that right?

Elza: Yeah. They got permission from the **General Refractories Company** to build a church across the street there on company land. Well the company gave them the land for that.

JC: Oh is that right?

Elza: Yeah. They went to the woods to cut their own timber, and had it sawed and built the church there.

JC: Is that right? So **General Refractories** gave the land for the church.

Elza: Yeah. And the cemetery.

JC: And the cemetery.

Elza: Yeah.

JC: So, there is no one buried in that cemetery before the 1930's then.

Elza: Well, the first one that was buried in there was **Burt Biggs** and that was in 1938.

JC: Oh is that right?

Elza: Yeah. He was the first one buried in there.

JC: **Burt Biggs**, 1938, first one buried there.

Elza: Him and two girls were killed in a car wreck up there at **Globe**.

JC: No kidding. So that is a fairly new cemetery.

Elza: Yes, 1938.

JC: Yeah. Now that **Jack Tackett**, did he stay on as the pastor for a while after they started the church?

Elza: He did for a while. I don't remember how long. (Speaking to his wife in the store) One more aisle. OK, She's here. My wife is getting information for something.

JC: (8:05) So he stayed on for a while as pastor.

Elza: Yeah.

JC: We heard they had a revival. The way were heard it was that they had been having a revival over at Globe, then they moved the revival up to the schoolhouse on **Garvin Ridge**.

Elza: Well, I didn't remember that. But the way they started the church up there, we lived there on the **Ridge**. They started having prayer meetings on our front porch out there on **Garvin Ridge**.

JC: Oh really?

Elza: Then they got together and got that schoolhouse. Then they built the church.

JC: So how many people were coming to these prayer meetings on your front porch?

Elza: I don't remember. I was young back then. I was only about 4 or 5 years old, something like that.

JC: Yeah. This **Jack Tackett**, had he been a pastor before?

Elza: Yeah, and he pastored there after that, years after, I don't know how many. He pastored up there a couple of times. He was the first pastor and he pastored there one time after that.

JC: Oh really? So he left and came back for a while.

Elza: Yeah. Uh huh.

JC: Oh OK. Before that revival had he pastored? Or was that his first time being a pastor?

Elza: That was his first time being a pastor. (10:03) I'm pretty sure it was.

JC: I assume most of the pastors, they had also worked another full time job?

Elza: Yeah. **Jack** worked at the brickyard there. **Harbison Walker Brickyard**.

JC: Oh OK. So he worked at **Harbison Walker**.

Elza: Yeah. I'm pretty sure he did.

JC: OK. I was looking at a **Garvin Ridge** Directory, and they listed off the pastors. It looked like they had about half a dozen pastors before **Walter Duncan** came.

Elza: Yeah they did I think. (counting) three.

JC: When did you leave **Garvin Ridge**?

Elza: Let's see. I left there first in '43. Went to **Mansfield** and got me a job. I worked there that fall then went into service when I was 18. Went back after service and in 1947 I married one of **Tom Hall**'s girls.

JC: Yeah, and then did you guys stay around there for a while or move away?

Elza: No. We went to **Mansfield**. Around that area for... (talking to his wife) I think it is one of your cousins. He is a **Porter** from **Indiana**. She is trying to get me to go now. Then we lived in **Mansfield** area around there, **Mansfield** and **Lucas** 50 years, then in 2000 we moved to **Florida**. Stayed there for 10 years. Then we sold out down here and went up to **Lebanon**.

JC: **Lebanon, Ohio**?

Elza: Yeah. Well we have been up there for about 4 years. I have to come back down here for the winters. But we come back this winter. I am in **Florida** now. We bought another house down here. I guess I guess I'll go back up there in May and sell my house and move down here permanently.

JC: I see. So you still own a house there in **Lebanon, Ohio**.

Elza: Yeah.

JC: Where are you at in **Florida**, what town?

Elza: **Avon Park**. It is about, oh it must be 70 miles south of **Orlando**. Middle of the state.

JC: Yeah. My dad used to have a trailer down at **Lake Placid**.

Elza: OK, that is 30 miles south of me.

JC: Yeah, they used to spend the winters down there for I think about 14 years or something like that.

Elza: You're not **Donald Porter**'s son are you?

JC: Yeah, I sure am.

Elza: Oh you are. Well he come up and visited me one time when he was down here.

JC: Oh did he?

Elza: Yeah that has been a long time ago. I don't remember what year.

JC: Yeah.

Elza: You're **Donald**'s son.

JC: Yeah.

Elza: My wife is your cousin.

JC: Yeah. That would be right. I am glad he got to go visit you there. I didn't know that.

Elza: Yeah, I am too. Is **Arney (Porter**) still living?

JC: Yep. He is still living over there in **Niles, Ohio**. He is not doing too good. Him and his wife are there, but the daughters go in and are with them about all the time. He has three daughters. They rotate days and they are in there taking care of their parents most of the time. He had a stroke a couple of years ago.

Elza: Oh did he?

JC: Yeah. So I don't think he gets out a whole lot. So that pastor **Lenny Estes**, we heard that he was kind of a strange one. This is the story that we heard. I may not get it exactly right but, you know **Jasper Porter** and Senia, **Senia Hall** which would be your wife's aunt…the story we heard was that she wore white socks to church one day, or maybe she did all the time. This **Lenny Estes** would preach about whatever he wanted to. He saw her white socks, so that day he preached about how women shouldn't wear white socks. (laughing)

Elza: I don't remember all that. I was young.

JC: So they invited him home for lunch that day and **Mary Erwin** said to **Senia**, "You got your socks preached off today." And **Senia Hall** said, "Nobody is gonna preach my socks off as long as I can buy em for ten cents a pair, I'll wear whatever I want." Or something like that. We hadn't heard that before. We just heard that the other day, and we wanted to find out more about this pastor **Estes**.

Elza: I just remember the name. I don't remember anything else about him.

JC: So is there anyone else around that would remember back that far at **Garvin Ridge**?

Elza: Not that I know of. I used to go down there on Memorial Day. About all the people my age are gone.

JC: I stopped to visit **Oscar Hall** last summer when I was down there.

Elza: Well now, Yeah, **Oscar** is older than I am, but I don't think he went to church up there.

JC: Yeah, that is what I thought. He says he goes to church there now.

Elza: Yeah he does, cause I saw him last time I was down there.

JC: Yeah. I got the impression that he has only been attending there a few years. Back on that **Russell Patton** being shot, you don't know anything about them ever arresting someone for that?

Elza: No I don't remember anything about that.

JC: I understand my grandpa **Everett Porter** and your dad **Mort Bond** and some other men, they all kind of worked together to build that church?

Elza: Yeah they did. **Robbie Biggs** and **Willis Erwin**. Old man **Henry Davis**. Right off I can't think of any of the rest of them.

JC: Was **Jasper Porter** and **Senia Hall**, were they involved with **Garvin Ridge** right at the beginning, or did they come along later?

Elza: I think it was pretty close to the beginning.

JC: Was it?

Elza: Yeah, I think it was. **Wallace Erwin**, he was there at the start. **Willis** and **Wallace Erwin**, **Everett Porter** and **Jasper Porter**, **Robby Biggs**. My memory is not too good anymore.

JC: Well it sounds pretty good. You are doing pretty good naming off those names.

Elza: I almost forget my own name sometimes.

JC: So do you think **Jasper** helped build the church right along with those guys?

Elza: I think he did.

JC: I didn't know if he was involved in the beginning or not.

Elza: I'm pretty sure he was, cause (19:05) I remember a story my dad told about him (**Jasper Porter**) one time.

JC: Oh is that right?

Elza: There was a guy, it was during the depression. We lived on **Garvin Ridge** at that time, that was the first time. There was a dentist who had a farm over on **Trough Camp**, and he hired people to work for him, and he pulled their teeth for them. Him and my dad went over there to get their teeth pulled. So they were coming back a riding horses. **Jasper** said, "**Mort**, let me borrow your cap." He said, "What do you want with my cap?" He said, "I want to put it in my mouth to hold my jaws apart." (laughing) I remembered that about him.

JC: They say he was quite a joker.

Elza: I guess.

JC: He wanted to put it in his mouth to hold their jaws apart huh?

Elza: Yeah, they had got their teeth all pulled.

JC: Wow, so they got all of their teeth pulled, or just...

Elza: I think they got em all pulled. I don't know if he made their teeth, he probably did.

JC: Oh, so they were getting their teeth pulled getting ready for dentures.

Elza: Yeah, and that dentist was letting them work it out on the farm there.

JC: Really? So they would do some labor in trade for the dental work.

Elza: Yeah. (laughing)

JC: So this was your dad and **Jasper**?

Elza: Yeah.

JC: How much did they have to work over there to get their dental work done?

Elza: I don't remember, but it was during the depression and there wasn't any work anywhere. My dad was probably off from the brickyard at that time. He worked at the brickyard.

JC: That is a good one. I've never heard that one. (21:29) (laughing)

Elza: I Guess I can remember a little bit.

JC: So they had to ride their horses over there to **Trough Camp**, and then they rode back. What was the name of that dentist?

Elza: Let me see. I think it was **Compton**. The name comes to me, **Compton**. I'm not sure about that name, but that is what came to me. I might could be wrong about that.

JC: So it might have been **Compton** maybe. So did **Jasper** attend that church up until he died?

Elza: Well, I'm not sure about that, but he probably did. I know **Everett** did.

JC: I think he died in '44 and you say you left in '43. Went into the service then to **Mansfield**. Are you related to, who is the **Bond** that married the **Hall**? **Willie Bond**?

Elza: Yeah, he was my great-uncle.

JC: Your great-uncle.

Elza: Yeah, he was grandpa **Bond**'s brother.

JC: **Willie Bond** was your grandpa…what was your grandpa's name?

Elza: **Marion. James Marion**.

JC: **James Marion Bond**, and **Willie** was his brother?

Elza: Yeah.

JC: OK. Very good. Any other memories you can think of about back then?

Elza: Back then, well.

JC: I love that story of **Jasper** and your dad.

Elza: I always remembered that. I was just a kid but I always remembered that. I thought it was funny.

JC: Yeah, that is a good one. So did they used to have a lot of people that attended **Garvin Ridge,** or has it always been about the same size?

Elza: No they used to have quite a few people. They would come from **Perry's Branch**, and **Globe** and all around. **Griffey Branch**. Yeah they would come up out of them hollers carrying lanterns.

JC: You say at that first revival you think there was about 20 people that got saved?

Elza: Twenty some, I think there were.

JC: Well I sure appreciate you talking with me about this. If it is alright, I might call you back another time with more questions.

Elza: Oh OK. I'll try to answer them.

JC: Good talking to you, tell you wife…

Elza: Good talking to you too.

JC: Tell your wife thanks for letting you talk with me while she is shopping there.

Elza: She has wondered off somewhere now. You have a good day.

JC: You too. Good talking to you. We will see you later.

Elza: OK

JC: OK, Bye.

Elza: Bye

END OF CALL (25:37)