

# **Oral History Interview**

## **with**

# **Sue Warren**

Interview Conducted by  
Mary Larson  
October 22, 2010

O-STATE Stories  
Oral History Project

**Special Collections & University Archives**  
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# O-State Stories

An Oral History Project of the OSU Library

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## Interview History

Interviewer: Mary Larson  
Transcriber: Amy Graham  
Editors: Miranda Mackey, Latasha Wilson, Micki White

The recording and transcript of this interview were processed at the Oklahoma State University Library in Stillwater, Oklahoma.

## Project Detail

The purpose of O-STATE Stories Oral History Project is to gather and preserve memories revolving around Oklahoma Agricultural and Mechanical College (OAMC) and Oklahoma State University (OSU).

This project was approved by the Oklahoma State University Institutional Review Board on October 5, 2006.

## Legal Status

Scholarly use of the recordings and transcripts of the interview with Sue Warren is unrestricted. The interview agreement was signed on October 22, 2010.

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## About Sue Warren...

Sue Warren grew up in southwest Oklahoma, attending school in Warren. She grew up in a farming family and was active in 4-H, entering chickens, pigs, and cattle into competitions. Her family raised cotton and corn, and they took pride in their large orchards and gardens. She had several family members who had been students and employees of Oklahoma State University, so the OSU bug was put in her ear at an early age. She graduated high school in 1957, but, not quite ready to venture too far from home, she enrolled at Southwestern Oklahoma State University in Weatherford. In 1958, with a few classes and some college experience under her belt, she transferred to OSU, majoring in vocational home economics.

At OSU, Sue was a “Woman of Willard” her first year (living in Willard Hall), later living in an apartment. As a student, she enjoyed attending dances at the Student Union, going to sporting events, and hanging out at the Baptist Student Union, but the majority of her time was devoted to attending class and studying. Her classes focused on food chemistry, nutrition, and interior design, and she spent part of her senior year in the home management house, as well as student teaching. After graduating in 1960, she taught in Glencoe for a year, then moved to Texas where she taught elementary school. In 1980, she moved back to Oklahoma, and in 1991, her daughter enrolled at OSU. Over the years, Sue has kept strong ties to OSU. She maintained her connection with the Oklahoma vocational home economics group and the American Home Economics Association. She served as president of the Comanche County chapter of the OSU Alumni Association for ten years, and in 1995, she was recognized by the Alumni Association for her outstanding service. In 2010, Sue came back to OSU to commemorate her fifty-year class reunion.

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## Sue Warren

Oral History Interview

Interviewed by Mary Larson  
October 22, 2010  
Stillwater, Oklahoma



**Larson** *My name is Mary Larson, and today is October 22, 2010. I'm visiting here with Sue Cupp-Warren on the Oklahoma State University campus in Stillwater, Oklahoma. This interview is one of a series with members of the OSU Class of 1960 who were on campus for their fifty-year reunion. This is part of the O-STATE Stories Project of the Oklahoma Oral History Research Program. Sue, welcome back to OSU for your fifty-year reunion. Were there some special reasons why you decided to come back for this particular reunion?*

**Warren** *Yes, it's been so exciting. We always like to come back to campus. I've had such fond memories here. In fact, I met my husband here, and my daughter went to school here in the '90s. We always just love coming back so much. It's just a beautiful campus. We all three got a good education here and have had, what I consider, a very good life from the education that we did obtain while we were here.*

**Larson** *What are some of the things you're interested in seeing and doing while you're back here on campus?*

**Warren** *Well, we walked around yesterday when we came up from Lawton, where we live now. We walked around and were amazed at the Student Union renovations. I just could not believe they were adding 350,000 square feet and the \$63 million project, and we could hardly get around for all the construction, so it was real different. We walked up toward the stadium, and it's amazing. It's been a couple of years since I've been back, but there are so many changes, so many new buildings. This Alumni Center is just wonderful.*

**Larson** *Isn't it gorgeous?*

**Warren**

It is. It is.

**Larson**

*Before we get into your career at OSU, would you tell me a little bit about where you grew up and a little about your early life?*

**Warren**

I grew up in southwestern Oklahoma, about halfway between Altus and Hobart on Highway 19, seven and a half miles east of Blair, Oklahoma. We're noted around that area for what's considered Lugert, or Quartz Mountain. My parents were farmers, and I was very much into 4-H Club. My dad had two brothers that were here, and aunts. Well, I guess after the war was over, my uncles came back here. One of my dad's brothers was a county agent for several years. He was in Roger Mills County, Okfuskee County, and Kingfisher County, so the family has a pretty long line of OSU family. My other uncle helped with the landscaping here when it was being done around the Student Union and all in the '40s. His major was agronomy or something to do with plants and shrubs and that.

I started here in 1958. I grew up on a farm that we still own the farms. I grew up on the North Fork of the Red River, and I had a great home life. We had to work really, really hard because we raised cotton. We had to harvest the cotton and the maize. My dad would always plant watermelons and cantaloupes, and we had huge watermelons and cantaloupes, and we had a big orchard. When I was a kid, we always had big gardens. My mom canned and sewed, and we had chickens. I entered my broilers in the broiler shows at Altus at Jackson County, and I entered pigs and cattle.

We had really a great school and community at Warren, which we still have a senior citizens center there, which I go over even though I live in Lawton. I go over about every Tuesday because they have a senior citizens night, and they have hamburgers and hotdogs and have live music by some of the old timers. We go over there and enjoy the music and seeing cousins and old friends. It's still a very close-knit community even though we lost our school in about 1961. The Friendship school burned, so they were going to do away with a lot of the rural schools in Jackson County. They decided to build a school down in the Navajo community, which was about three miles from where I grew up. That was my grandpa's place, where my Grandma and Grandpa Cupp lived. They built a new school called Navajo down there, and then they bussed the kids from Warren and all around there to that new school.

The old school building is still standing. There's people that live there. Our first old community building at Warren was a Quonset hut, and then about five years ago, with the help of the people in the community to

build it and some government funding, we did get a wonderful new, big senior citizens center there at Warren. So the community is still thriving. They have Sunday lunch for people in the community. There's a lot of people from Altus or Hobart that come for Sunday lunch. They have Monday breakfast and lunch and then Tuesday night music, and then we have a volunteer fire department there. The community is still pretty much intact. They've built about five new, big, nice homes there around in the farming community where I grew up.

**Larson** *About how many people are there now, would you say?*

**Warren** Not very many, probably a couple hundred there in the little town of Warren. There's a café, two churches, a fire department and the senior citizens. They gave the old Quonset hut to the fire department when we got the new senior citizens built. There's a cemetery where my great-grandparents, my grandparents, and my parents are buried, and my first husband.

**Larson** *When did your family come to Oklahoma?*

**Warren** It was about the late 1800s. They came from Tazewell, Tennessee. A few years ago we went through there, and there is a Cupp Cemetery which we visited that my great-great-grandparents were buried there. It's on a road about twenty-five miles from Tazewell, up in the mountains. It's called Cupp's Ridge.

**Larson** *So you have your own family ridge. Not many people can say that. (Laughs)*

**Warren** But it was interesting. My dad and two of his brothers and their wives all went up there for a family reunion several years ago, so we got a hold of one of the cousins that still lived there, and she could direct us up the road to the old family cemetery. I grew up about three-quarters of a mile east of Warren, Oklahoma, and then we lived in two different houses. Well, three, I guess. I was born a little ways west of Warren, and then in 1944 we moved down. My dad bought a farm on the river, and we lived there from 1944 to 1956. Then, in 1956 when my Papaw Cupp died, my grandmother moved to Blair, which is about eight miles. Then we moved into that house my junior year in high school, so we were about three-quarters of a mile from the school, from the Warren school where I went to school. I got a good education there. I was able to go on to college.

**Larson** *What was it that drew you to OSU?*

**Warren** Well, of course, my family—that's all I heard. Southwestern Oklahoma

is a very strong Oklahoma State University base, and, of course, with the agriculture and the Extension, that's really all I ever heard. When I did graduate from high school, I guess I wasn't quite ready to come this far because we'd been up here when my uncles and aunts were here for their graduations and in different things on campus. I started my summer out of high school in 1957 to Southwestern [Oklahoma State University] at Weatherford because it was only about an hour from home. I started up there. I went the first summer and the next year and that summer, and then the next fall, in '58, I transferred to Oklahoma State and went and graduated in three years and four summers.

**Larson** *What was your major?*

**Warren** Vocational home economics.

**Larson** *Is that what you planned on going into when you went to college, or were you not sure?*

**Warren** When I first started, I had kind of thought about business, but then with the influence of my 4-H and my family, and my uncle was already Extension agent at that time, and I was acquainted with some of the Extension people, I kind of leaned that way.

**Larson** *So you had an eye to working with Extension or something similar when you graduated?*

**Warren** I had some very strong mentors in the Extension field through the years as I was growing up, and I think they had a really good influence on me, directing me.

**Larson** *And who were some of those people?*

**Warren** George McKegg was one of our Extension agents in Jackson County, and then Errol Hunter was from our community, from Warren, and he was the director of the OSU Extension here in Stillwater at the time. We knew him. Then after he left, Jimmy Netherton is another one that grew up at Warren, became Extension. I don't know who all you remember here but...

**Larson** *There's a strong Extension background in that neck of the woods.*

**Warren** Yes.

**Larson** *Within your major, what were some of the classes you remember, or even outside of your major? Were there things that had a particular impact on you?*

**Warren** Oh, yes. Well, I remember in my foods chemistry, we had to draw for one of our final tests. We had to draw to see what foods we had to prepare. My lab partner and I—and I believe she was Pakistani. I don't remember her name. It's been too long, but I can see her face. We drew rhubarb sauce. I would have been lost except for my Grandmother Cupp used to raise rhubarb, and she would make strawberry rhubarb pies. So we had to take the rhubarb and prepare it from scratch, and that was part of our final test. I was accustomed to using a pressure cooker because my mother canned a lot. Also, Mom would pressure roast or pot roast and potatoes and carrots and just a wonderful pressured meal. So we got the pressure cooker out, and we pressured that rhubarb, cleaned it and pressured it, added some sugar, and I believe we added some red food coloring to make it look like more rhubarb because it wasn't all that red, best I can remember. And so we made it through foods chemistry.  
(Laughs)

**Larson** *That was certainly a trial by fire. So at the end of that course how much of your final grade was based on the lab work?*

**Warren** I think it was a third, and that was over in the old foods and nutrition building, which is on—this is what, Hester?

**Larson** Yes.

**Warren** Okay, it was up there, about halfway between here and the stadium on the west side, so we had to walk all the way from homemaking, the HES [Human Environmental Sciences] building, over here. And at that time, it seemed like a long walk across campus to make our classes. That's one of the things that come to mind. At first we were aghast that we would have to fix a dish like that because we thought that we would have to do something common. Anyway, we got through that, and then Dr. Ilse Wolf was our home management supervisor. Jerry Gill asked me, "What do you remember about your senior year?" And I said, "Well, not very much." My husband and I got married in September of 1959. We would have been married fifty years, last year. He passed away in '04. We got married. I started my senior year. I had to live in the home management house one semester and then do my student teaching, so I was really pretty busy my senior year.

We had two home management houses then. Dr. Ilse Wolf was the supervisor of what we called the new home management house, north of the campus. Betty Brannan was supervisor of the south home management house. Well, everybody said Dr. Wolf was really, really strict. Well, anyway, I drew the stricter, so I participated in the new home management house under Dr. Wolf, and that was quite an



experience. We had to go there early, have breakfast, and then go to class. That winter was so cold! We had to walk from the home management house to HES in the snow and cold and then go back up there for our meals and to run that house. We had to do the grocery shopping and everything. We usually didn't get away from there until about ten o'clock every night because we had to...

**Larson** *And did you do that your first semester, senior year, or was that second semester?*

**Warren** I believe that was the first semester of my senior year.

**Larson** *That must've been tough. You'd just gotten married, and then you were involved in the home management house from early in the morning until ten o'clock at night.*

**Warren** My husband was working at Safeway. Then the second semester, we did our student teaching at Glencoe, where Larry Shell is from. I taught with his mother-in-law, Maxine Childers. She had five daughters, and he's married to one of those daughters, Christy, who I taught in 1960, '61, I guess it was. That was a great year. It was an old school. It had holes in the wood floor, and my high heels would catch in the boards. (Laughs) But we had a great superintendent. We had a great principal, Mr. Horace Smith, who we called Smitty. Even though he was superintendent, he liked to be called Smitty. He was our superintendent, and then Mr. Thomas was our principal. All of the teachers were so great. Jack Pritchard was the vocational FFA teacher when I was FHA teacher, so we just had a great working relationship. Then after I left, they got a brand new school. (Laughs)

**Larson** *Never fails.*

**Warren** But, it was a good year. Then I moved to San Antonio and taught second grade down there.

**Larson** *Well, if we can go back a little bit to some of your classes and your teachers, you mentioned a few faculty members who were influential in your development at school. Are there others whom you haven't mentioned that had an impact?*

**Warren** Let's see. I think Miss [Mary Beth] Carter, (did I mention her?) foods and nutrition. Dr. Wolf. Of course, Dr. O'Toole, Lela O'Toole was dean then. Miss Anna May Johnson, I believe was her name, was my advisor. Oh, my goodness! It's hard to remember. I believe Dr. [Kathryn] Greenwood was HID, [Housing and Interior Design] and that was a nice course. I can't remember the other man's name that was one of our

interior design... During that time, it just seemed like the college was just starting to boom, the College of Human Environmental Sciences. I stayed connected with the Oklahoma Vocational Group and the American Home Economics Association group for several years after that. I just felt that I got such a good education that I was able to do a lot of different occupations with the background of work that I had gotten here. Everyone was so helpful. It just seemed like everyone was so professional here, and I admired that in a lot of my instructors.

**Larson**

*If we could talk, maybe, a little bit about student life outside of the classroom. Where did you live when you were going to school?*

**Warren**

My first year, I lived in Willard Hall. I'm a Woman of Willard, and that was a really good experience. I lived on, I think it was the third floor on the south side, and could overlook Theta Pond, basically. Then that next year, we got married, and we lived in an apartment. I believe it was on Duck Street up here, north of the campus. My last summer here, when I graduated, I had tailoring and tennis. That was a really good summer. I enjoyed all my classes, and we had a good time playing tennis. I'm not real sure, but I think that Mike Holder was our tennis instructor, and he's, of course, athletic director now. If it wasn't him, I don't know. I didn't get to go back and look at my yearbook to see specifically, but whoever it was, we had a really good time playing tennis that summer.

**Larson**

*When you were in the residence hall, when you were at Willard, did they host dances and other activities?*

**Warren**

Oh, yes. I can remember—as we were walking through the Student Union yesterday evening, I just commented to Danny that this is where we used to come and spend time, and, of course, the be-bop, Elvis Presley was popular then. Oh, we just had some great times. We wore those big poodle skirts and those loafers and bobby socks. (Laughs) We had a great time. We had a really good time. We had a lot of nice entertainment, dances. One thing, I believe it was in '59, we always went to all the wrestling matches because my late husband started here before I did. He actually started in basketball, and he lived in Bennett, I believe, and he worked at Cordell in the cafeteria. He was going to play basketball. He was six four, a real good basketball player, but he always liked the sports here and everything.

That year, we went to the wrestling match, and we were sitting on the floor watching it. The arena was packed, and they came in and took pictures. Then we were on the front cover of the *Sports Illustrated*. I guess this was 1959. I've been intending to look that up too because my daughter remembers it because her dad would mention that to her off and on through the years. We were talking about it the other day, and she

said, "Remember, Dad used to say that 'we made the front page of *Sports Illustrated*'?" (Laughs)

**Larson** *If we can find that, we'll scan a copy and send you the electronic file.*

**Warren** Oh, okay!

**Larson** *If we have that at the Library, we will get you a copy. (Laughs)*

**Warren** But that was interesting.

**Larson** *You mentioned the Student Union being one place that was a big student hangout on campus. What were some of the other places, either off or on campus?*

**Warren** The Baptist Student Union. Friends and I would go there a lot. That's kind of where my late husband and I started dating, and we would play basketball. There was a basketball court out on the back of it, hoops. Boys and girls would play together, and so we played a lot of basketball over there and hung out at the Baptist Student Union. Like I say, went to a lot of the sporting events. He enjoyed football and baseball and wrestling. We went to a lot of the musical things and then the sporting events.

Then our daughter came here in '91, and she was in the band, the marching band, the spirit band. She traveled with the basketball team and the concert band. So starting somewhere about 1990 we started buying season tickets because we had moved back from Texas to Oklahoma in 1980. We went the gamut around from Oklahoma to San Antonio to Houston, (well, he was at Fort Hood) and then back around. Then in 1980, we moved back to Lawton, Oklahoma. Our daughter was seven, starting in the second grade, so then, of course, she was being brainwashed, so we would come to Stillwater. (Laughs) There was never any question where she was going to school.

Her junior year in high school, the OSU band came through Lawton, and they were on their way to a ball game at TCU, and we housed all of the band members. Our Comanche County Alumni Club housed all of the band members for that overnight. The band came and played at halftime of the football game in Cameron Stadium, and then we took the kids. We had, like, five or six girls at our house, and that was a great thing for her to get to interact with those band members. Then the next year, when we brought her and dropped her off at school, it was harder on me than it was on her because she had all these friends that she had met and kind of stayed in contact with her senior year. We let her out, and she just toodled right on over there to the Seretean Center, just as happy as she

could be, after we got her unpacked at Kerr-Drummond. I cried all the way home to Lawton! (Laughs)

**Larson** *Well, speaking of student activities, what kinds of things were you involved with when you were in college?*

**Warren** I was in Omicron Nu, the honors homemaking organization. I really can't remember. Like I say, it was a lot of classroom and studying and preparing lesson plans for student teaching and home management house. (Laughs)

**Larson** *And if you got through that quickly, you were taking a lot of credits, so you probably wouldn't have had time for much else. (Laughter)*

**Warren** I didn't have time for a lot. It just kind of seems like a whirlwind today, but it was good, and I was really happy to graduate.

**Larson** *What were some of the student traditions during the time you were at OSU?*

**Warren** Oh, student traditions.

**Larson** *Did they have Howdy Week that you remember, or emphasis weeks, where they had maybe an Ag Week or an Engineering Week? Do any of those sound familiar?*

**Warren** I think they did, but I don't really remember. I remember Homecoming was a big thing, and, of course, the ball games. I guess we were more geared into the sporting events.

**Larson** *Did they still throw guys in Theta Pond when they got pinned or engaged?*

**Warren** Yes, they did.

**Larson** *Did your husband get thrown in when you got engaged? (Laughs)*

**Warren** You know, I don't remember. I bet he did, but I don't remember that.

**Larson** *Speaking of things like that, when you were there, they would've had curfews for the dorms.*

**Warren** Yes, yes.

**Larson** *Were the men's and women's curfews different? Do you remember anything about that?*

**Warren** I know I think I had to be back over there by eight o'clock every night. I think the guys were a little different. I think they were.

**Larson** *Was there ever any grumbling about that?*

**Warren** No, no. I can't remember that there was because it seems like in my time, we were pretty disciplined. Our parents had pretty much instilled in us that we did what we were supposed to do. I think it was a little bit more structured then.

**Larson** *You mentioned attending sporting events. What do you remember about the teams and the athletic events when you were in college?*

**Warren** I don't remember very much about that. I really don't remember very much about the sporting events then. I remember kind of seeing some of the wrestlers, I think. Myron Roderick, I think, was wrestling during that time, and then the heavyweight was [inaudible]. I know OSU had a really, really good wrestling team. I don't remember who some of the players were. I guess I should. To me, we went, and we enjoyed it. My late husband could tell you the names of all of them through the years, but I didn't keep up with that as much.

**Larson** *What were some of the traditions around Homecoming? You had mentioned Homecoming before.*

**Warren** I think it's kind of like it is now. It was real upbeat, and people would get really hyped up and always want to beat whoever we were playing, especially K-State. Then, of course, Bedlam, when we played OU was really, really hyped.

**Larson** *Were the house decs as important as they are now?*

**Warren** I don't think so. I think that started taking place more, probably, in the late '80s. Right before my daughter got here in '91, it seems like it was really, really strong. When she left here, like in '95 or '96—let's see. The last year we were here was '03. We came up in the fall of '03, and it was big then.

**Larson** *Did you have the parade?*

**Warren** I don't remember the parade when I was here in the late '50s and '60. I don't remember the parade. That was fifty years ago.

**Larson** *Do you remember the first Pistol Pete mascot? Do you remember him being around while you were here on campus?*

**Warren** Pistol Pete was here when we were here, yes, and it's always been a favorite mascot.

**Larson** *In terms of getting away from campus, how often did you manage to go home while you were in school?*

**Warren** Not very much because when I came here, I didn't have a car and come from a poor farm family. Mom and Dad brought me to campus and left me, and I had to find a ride home with friends. Then, after I met my husband, I would ride home with him. He had a car. He was from Duke, Oklahoma, just outside of Altus, but we didn't go home very often. They didn't have the interstates fixed. We would have to go on what we called the back roads through, I guess, Kingfisher, Okarche, and down that way. We didn't have a lot of money, and we just didn't go home very often. Probably two or three times a semester was about it.

**Larson** *Did many students have cars on campus at that point?*

**Warren** No. My mom would make me clothes and mail them to me.

**Larson** *Always good to have a mom who's a seamstress. (Laughter) Do you remember any new buildings that were built while you were at OSU, or any new programs or majors that were added?*

**Warren** I can't remember the year that the Seretean Center was built, but it might've been somewhere around that time. I believe they might've built the Education Classroom Building somewhere about that time. Let's see. I believe Stout was there, and Willard, and the older part of HES homemaking was there. They still had the veterans housing out there. None of those new apartments were built. They were built about the time my daughter was here, somewhere around '91 or so. The dorms were not co-educational then, absolutely not. Old Central was here. I believe Morrill was here. I believe that's where Extension was, and, of course, Campus Corner was completely different. Seems like they might've built a new engineering building during that time, but I can't remember those specifics. (Laughs)

**Larson** *Well, it's quite a distance at this point. (Laughter)*

**Warren** Fifty years is a long time! (Laughs)

**Larson** *Yes, exactly! Were there any big issues on campus when you were here?*

**Warren** No, I really wasn't into politics at that time.

**Larson** *Not even just political, but I mean any big trends with maybe some of the guys coming back from the Korean War, or if there were a lot of GIs on campus, people doing the GI Bill. I just didn't know if any of that was having an impact.*

**Warren** No. My husband went into the army—he was drafted in December of '59. He had graduated in the summer, gotten his Bachelor of Fine Arts, and he didn't have a teaching certificate. I was teaching at Glencoe, and he started to school that fall, or summer, I guess. He took some classes that summer working on his teaching certificate. He had done his student teaching at the elementary school here in Stillwater, first grade, in art, then he was drafted the first of December. Well, he had already completed his student teaching and had everything finished, and they took him to Oklahoma City to the induction station on the bus around the first of December. He called me, and he said, "I don't have but a minute. You've got to listen to me. I'm headed to Fort Hood. Go and withdraw me from all of my classes. I'll see you in two weeks."

**Larson** *And that was it.*

**Warren** And that's the way it was, so that's what happened. I had to come over here from—we were living in Glencoe at the time, and he was carpooling with some people to the campus. Luckily, he had everything done, and so they went ahead and gave him his teaching certificate, and I withdrew him. Then he started basic training at Fort Hood at Killeen, Texas, and then he got a furlough Christmas that was two weeks away. He got a furlough. He came home for, I guess, a week, and then he went back. I finished out through June at Glencoe because I was on a twelve-month contract. I finished out through June, and he had been transferred to Fort Sam Houston in San Antonio by then. He came and got me, and we moved to San Antonio. That was the year that I taught at Glencoe and then got a job in San Antonio that next summer, the summer of '61. I think I got the dates right. That was kind of a trying experience there.

**Larson** *Well, just to come up with some sort of finalizing comments on your time at OSU, how do you think attending OSU impacted your life?*

**Warren** Oh, tremendously. It was an experience. No one can tell you—there's no words to explain leaving home and going and having a college experience. When I graduated from high school, my daddy told me, he said, "Honey, you can do whatever you want to do, but I'll tell you one thing. If you get a college education, that's something that nobody can ever take away from you." And he said, "That's something that you'll have the rest of your life," so I went for it. I knew that I wanted to come to OSU, but after the year down there, when I got some of my basics out of the way, I was able to go home more. So by the time that I left

Weatherford and came up here that next summer, then I was kind of ready to get in the groove and face college life because I had lived on campus at Weatherford. I knew, at that point, I had enough experience with professors and studying and scheduling my time and knowing what I needed to do, that when I came up here, I was ready to really dig in and see the light at the end of the tunnel where I could keep focused on my education and to become a successful member of society, I guess.

**Larson** *Obviously your OSU experience influenced you because you've been involved with the Alumni Association down in Lawton. Do you want to talk just real briefly about that and your role there?*

**Warren** When my daughter started school up here in '91, Brad Burdick was our regional director down there, and Jerry Gill was the executive director. My daughter got a job at the alumni office, and she volunteered me to Brad Burdick. "Oh, my mom will be..." because they were looking for someone to grab the Comanche County president's job and run with it. I said, "Okay," so I did. It was a great experience. It was a lot of work. It took a lot of time. Luckily, we had our own printing business, so I could print brochures and invitations, make phone calls and solicit money for the functions that we had. My late husband was right there behind me because he bled orange.

With her being at the Alumni Association, she did get a PLC [President's Leadership Council] scholarship. She was plugged in, and she was on the Student Alumni Board, and so she was very much plugged into the alumni group. That was wonderful because that kept her motivated, and it kept me motivated to work for the university and try to increase our Comanche County alumni group. I guess I was president for ten years. I haven't looked back on the records to see because, at the time, I had sick parents, and I was doing the alumni, and I was trying to run a business and things just kind of—I always took on more than I could probably handle. It was wonderful, and it has instilled in her, also, a passion for being in the band and that kind of thing. It has instilled in her a good work ethic and volunteerism. There are just so many things that words cannot explain about your relationships with OSU and how much it helps you in your overall life.

**Larson** *I want to thank you very much for your time today and for sitting here and taking time out of your schedule when I know it's very busy with Homecoming week. Thank you so much for coming in, and thank you for being part of this project.*

**Warren** Well, I hope that some little things will help. I really have enjoyed it. It's been a fantastic time. We always just love to come back to the campus. It's a special place, and they do such a wonderful job. I'll tell you, the



first time that I talked to Judy Horn the other day, when I really found out that we probably would be able to come, everybody has been so kind and so helpful, and the arrangements have just been wonderful. We had a great time this morning. It's just been fabulous. You know that they did honor me with an alumni service award. I believe it was 1995. I don't know if you knew about that or not.

**Larson**                      *No.*

**Warren**                      I looked for the little brochure, but there were five of us that year that they honored. Mr. Ellis from Hobart, and me, and I can't remember the names of the other fine people that had helped with alumni organizations. That was such an honor. I was so shocked. But everybody that I've worked with here, they've just been wonderful.

**Larson**                      *Thank you again for your service to OSU and for talking to us today. We do appreciate it.*

**Warren**                      I enjoyed it, Mary. Thank you.

----- *End of interview* -----