

Transcript

M. Cissell:

OK, I'm Madison Cissell and today is October 7th, 2023 and I'm here interviewing Tony Cissell, who is my grandfather, so I call him Poppy, so I might call you poppy during the interview and not Tony. And I guess I should say your birth name is Louis Anthony Cissell but you? By Tony. So I first want to start out with you just telling me a little bit about your background. So maybe you could tell me when you were born and your childhood and where you grew up.

Tony Cissell:

Born at home. December the 10th, 1937. I grew up like. I ended up having I had three, three sisters and. But I'm. And when I got just a little bit older and. Like I went over my grandmothers a lot and I had a baby gun and I. Some birds and. Other things and. I always like to hunt and my dad gave me a 22 rifle. I guess when I was. Oh, probably 10 or 12 and. I probably killed the first rabbit around that age too. But my dad would take walks in the woods sometimes, and he tell me about some of the trees, like Hickory trees and oak trees and willows and. Anyways, different Fridays, not real good on, but at least he knows some of them. And then I was. Got a little bit older. I always like played in the creeks and stuff. Catch crawfish and. Maybe have a little sane or net or something. Catch frogs and mentals and. And Spencer's fair amount of time just by myself. Wonder, you know, in the in the woods and I've. Almost always had a dog and. Like we'll move, move to Louisville. Take my dog and walk along this Creek with Burris Creek and. And I fairly young ages, start catches like snakes too, and mint what we call them, red bellies and Garter snakes. That's mainly what we catch. Well, I guess that has gotten us about the 7th grade. I played football and they I played in the 1st 2:00. Toy boats. I was small and so they used to call me Etsy. There was actually one boy who was named Bert Howard. And another guy named George Swamp Back. And George was a year older, Burt was same age as me, but. Bert and George, both they were about three times what I weighed on weed. About £70 then and they weighed over 200. £20 in grade school and. And Bert. Had a little brother when I was in the eighth grade. His little brother that was in the 1st grade weigh £10 more than me.

M. Cissell:

Yeah, I know our family on this side is small. Or they were when they were kids. So you said you all moved. So I should preface this interview is happening in your House in Louisville. But where did you live before you moved to Louisville?

Tony Cissell:

I've lived in Bardstown and we lived about. Three different houses. And and Bardstown and one of the first houses that have a lot of members from both. Is on 31 E or or we call it New Haven Rd. which. And my dad up had. Always had chickens, then and and I can remember. Once I was. Little weasel got in her and killed a whole bunch of chickens one night. Like say he, even we lived on 4th St. in Bardstown, we we had chickens.

M. Cissell:

What about high school?

Tony Cissell:

Went to high school at Saint X and enjoyed high school, carried newspaper starts, had my newspaper out when? My as a freshman like I started in like January of my freshman year and I carried all the way through. High School, which back then they had two papers, had a morning and an afternoon paper, so I always get up early in the morning and deliver my papers. And I had a bicycle for a big. Basket on it. Anyway, yeah. Like say how? Take my. BB gun and go which Paragraphs Creek which? Went in behind. Well, worse Sanex is on Our Lady of Peace and Calvary Cemetery and. That will always end. Store and kind of the Eastern Parkway and Galway Pass bash from Manner Shopping center sometimes. Which is it? Wasn't Bash banner reasoning in with this? Fact there's a horse farmer one time.

M. Cissell:

I feel like, UM, you have a lot of knowledge about trees and wildlife and. Plants and the outdoors. Do you think that started on the walks with your dad and spending all that time outside?

Tony Cissell:

M My mother, she I wouldn't say it was outdoors person, but my mother always liked to pick. Blackberries and stuff like and nuts. We want us back. Then we pick. Want us every year and get them holes off of them and she cracking nuts and use them. For candies and stuff at Christmas time.

M. Cissell:

And then after high school, you got your associates degree, right? Or did what happened?

Tony Cissell:

I got mine so Friday.

M. Cissell:

After high school.

Tony Cissell:

Well, I had some dinky jobs for. As a former state operator and I worked at the current journal, this is some type of flunky job and then. I guess. When I. I said I was 17 when I got out of high school and when I. A little bit after I turned 18, I went to work for telephone company and I worked there 44 years. I always worked out outside. That associate degree I got, I got that at. Night time.

Speaker 3

OK.

Tony Cissell:

Going night school, you know? And so I. You know that. Forget 60. Something hours, you know, but I've originally I was going to finish, but after a while I had. I guess five kids, but I'm trying to think how many when I'm. I'm first. Sure I had five when. I decided to quit. You know the going to. School and I'd already. Accumulated enough hours, so I just asked for. This, but I never intended to do anything with it. You know? Just like learning stuff.

M. Cissell:

And that was. Do you remember? Like what your degree was in?

Tony Cissell:

I think it was like. Like, say, business, I don't know exactly whatever mortgage or.

M. Cissell:

Right.

Tony Cissell:

What have you?

M. Cissell:

Tell me about working for the telephone company, Bellsouth, right?

Tony Cissell:

Southern bell. OK. And then it was South Central. And then. Yeah. So it changed his name Ralph 4-5 different times and. And I start out with in the construction of of force. The type of work I did. But then. Later on and got into maintenance of the telephone cables. I used to. Go. When I was in construction, they sent me out of town. To work. On like a new. We splice the first table up went from Whitesburg KY to. Blackie, Kentucky and it was down in the mountains of around Whitesburg. And the baby. So that that was a. I just worked there a little over a year when I went out of town. For like 3 months. Spicing up cable, like I say, we're the people never had telephone service, so this was in. 5758 something like 1957 or 8. And now went went out town. Oh, there was a. Flood in Pikeville went there. They had quite a bit of construction around. Cynthiana, KY, and Paris, KY and I went there. And then. Later on was in maintenance. Some floats in. Hurricanes I went. One time, Miami, FL. Mobile AL. I did a construction at Huntsville, AL when the. Build a Redstone Arsenal. And then. Number of places in Louisiana, Lake Charles and New Alberia Lafayette. And took his Lafayette. But yeah, and there's. Anyway, I went out of town a number of times. And the telephone company every three weeks say that I could come home or my wife could come. Down there and Jennie like to come down. If when the more devil especially. In Louisiana, she joy coming down and. Eating the Cajun food and stuff.

M. Cissell:

UM. Before I ask you about, you know, your marriage and meeting 9, there's this story I remember. I don't know if someone else told me or you told me about, you know, when you were around 16, you climbed this tree and there was a crows nest or something. If you want to tell that story, but I think it translates like to, you know, you doing the maintenance on the telephone lines and not being afraid to be. You know way up there and.

Tony Cissell:

No, I never worry about heights and. And I guess I was. Around 16, I guess there was a processed up and I want them for got a couple of young crows out and one boy they they was with me. He kept his for a

long time and it was his name was. Bill Adams and it it would fly off and but it would, you'll always come back, you know, and. And anyway, we we had a good time with. It you know.

M. Cissell:

Did you keep the crow? Did you keep a crow?

Tony Cissell:

Yes, but mine then for some reason didn't live real long. But his live lived a long time.

M. Cissell:

Anything else about your career before we moved to marriage and children?

Tony Cissell:

Well, like I say, I always hunted these hunt squirrels, groundhogs, and and miles. You don't always hunt. Rabbits too, and go to Bardstown Untils in. My uncle had Beagle hounds and I had a cousin that had Beagle hounds, and so the rabbit her mainly before that dance that I had a dog that was half. Down have something else that was a real good squirrel dog and. In kind of eastern Jefferson County, and but we'd also go to Bardstown and and stuff and on.

M. Cissell:

Yeah. Do you want to talk more about, like, hunting and then getting into bird hunting and?

Tony Cissell:

Dog you? Well, like, say, I was a. Rabbit hunter for the forest. Real lot of I'm doing a whole lot of hunting, but then later on I. Decided to get me a a bird dog, which the first one I got was a Britney. And I trained it myself and. And I'm a number of places around Kentucky, but eventually I start going to Kansas and. Mainly in in hunting birds, but like. Later on, we learned and. Kansas, Texas. Oklahoma a little bit, Illinois, little bit, Missouri. Later on Nebraska too. Then we've got grouse hunting some and we go to Wisconsin to grouse hunt and to hunt some over in Eastern Kentucky around Moorhead. More than mainly in the Eastern Kentucky.

M. Cissell:

And you. You used to breathe airdales, right?

Tony Cissell:

Yes, we had a pair of airdales one time. She ended up having 16 pups and we don't. Four of them died fairly young. I mean by real young pups. But we raised 12 of them and I think she ended up having. Maybe 4 letters and may end up being the four letters end up being about 50. Dogs all together.

M. Cissell:

UM, so let's backtrack a little bit to you getting married and raising kids. Do you want to tell? Me about that well.

Tony Cissell:

I met my wife through my sister and which they were friends and. And in a way that we end up dating in and then we're just thinking about getting married and and. So I end up joining them. I didn't want to get dressed at then and so I I didn't want to spend the first part of my married life in the in. Marine Corps. So I end up joining the reserves and. We would. Anyway, when I was in the reserves for six years, actually I think I only had to be active 5, but like. This before I got married, I went to. Join join the reserves. We was thinking about getting married. Yes, and and. Anyway, I was went to. Paris Island for three months at capital June for three months and then. Every summer we would go to summer camp and. And like we would have. It's just at the reserves. We go for a week in week go Friday night and come back. Afternoon, Mary and. But anyway, we end up having a races we have, like we're carrying a rifle and a pack and a handler, a heavy helmet and. Stuff and. One Tam. I was racing and myself. And a Lieutenant who is a over our squad. He and I was racist. Together we lead to everybody and. So it got down. It was just he and I at the very last. Anyway, I ended up beating him so I was happy about that. Everybody was charmed, me home, girl.

M. Cissell:

Is that when we were talking last night, you got you won a prize and then you're.

Tony Cissell:

That was it, though. Someone came and that was out in McAlester. OK. And like I say.

M. Cissell:

Some event.

Tony Cissell:

There I'm going there. Indian headdress and. And that prisoner a chop. He was a Choctaw Indian. Made it and he was in prison. But I guess he sold them or somehow another they end up purchasing it through the prison. And anyway, that's what they gave me for. When the receptor.

M. Cissell:

OK, so you want another race? Out there. Yeah, I didn't know about these things. And were you boxing around that time too, or was that later?

Tony Cissell:

Started boxing when I was. I started working telephone company in March. 561956 and. Then that summer I started boxing and I wasn't serious enough for about it. But anyway, I did end up having three fights. That was on TV one. I lost him. Won. I lost by split decision and another one I knocked the guy out from Columbus. OH Indiana. And about. 30 seconds of the first round. Like I say it. There's just something I want to try to see in.

M. Cissell:

What what was appealing to you about that or how did you get into it? Did you know someone or did you just decide to try it out well.

Tony Cissell:

TV at that time they had what's called tomorrow's champions and they actually they had a. Ring set up and. I think it was wave TV. They end up actually giving you like maybe 3 dollars \$4.00 for. For boxing, which maybe supposed to covers expenses or draft or getting down there, or something else, and anyway. And I saw people fighting on the TV, you know, and thought track, you know, and I did, you know, for, like, say, a little bit about what? And it would go down to Columbia gym, which at the time. Well, it was Cassius Clay then he was. In training down, there gathered. With Coach Mayo, his name is Joe Martin. He was a policeman and he did dumping on us, you know, just he volunteered to do it. And he was the first trainer. Cassius Clay, like later on cash, just got. More knowing or better or something he switched. Trainers to somebody else?

M. Cissell:

Well, you got married. When you were how old?

Tony Cissell:

I was 23 and my wife was 20.

M. Cissell:

And then you had. Children shortly after.

Tony Cissell:

Right.

M. Cissell:

While you were working at that time, you were working for the telephone company.

Tony Cissell:

Right, I've been working for tell from coming since I was 18, so I've been working for almost five years when I. You know, got married.

M. Cissell:

Do you want to talk about raising children and you kind of got them into 4H and they all? Seemed to take to that. Do you want to talk about? That a little bit but.

Tony Cissell:

We've got our first house. We've had seven acres of we end up buying. Some ponies and we had like a court that. They they used some, but they rolled them. Pony. The first one was named Flicka. And. And and they were, you know. Fairly young when we, you know, like I don't remember. Fairly young when we got bought the first pony. And then. Some neighbors up the street. Yes, they were for each other. We we all got in together. Jeannie and I were in leaders in 4H for. A number a year since. Well, Kevin told him. Orders. Two boys, they were probably around 8:18. You know, when they get got out. But they got him when they're about 9:00 and then. My youngest son. Two sons got in. And my daughter got in there too and. Daughters she was in. Barrel race she was probably, I don't know. 30 kids in and I really don't. How many. But anyway, she ran. 1st and she stood first, always to the very last. Kid beat her by

like in the hundreds of a second, yeah. But in that Eric, my one son. He he won the barrel race one year he won the pole race one year with the.

M. Cissell:

Well, I think we'll move now into papaw's. So what, what was your first introduction to papaw?

Tony Cissell:

'S I guess time I really endorse him when we bought this house where we are now. And that was. I guess. Around 35 years ago, but I. And later on, maybe we saw him at the. At the fair or something and. And then we laid almost, we started in, in the, in the fair and. I've volunteered at the Jefferson Memorial Forest and I've introduced a lot of those people to Paul Paul's and someone maybe knew about them, but. For as. As many as Popals are all around Kentucky. A lot of people don't even know about them. But you know, most people, they throw. Other places in fence rows and and stuff, you know. There are some people who. That's eight a month. Join them all their life. But still, there's a whole lot of people that should know about that don't know about them, yeah.

M. Cissell:

So you you didn't know about them until you moved here?

Tony Cissell:

I don't remember knowing anything about them prior to that.

M. Cissell:

And do you want to describe the Grove you have and how many trees there were when you first moved here?

Tony Cissell:

I don't know how many trees there was one big. Older tree that was here and then I. Myself, let's start letting some growing that, you know, we're cutting all those. They're they're just coming up wild. I don't know. They're coming up from the roots or I think, mainly from roots, but they could be coming up from the seeds or something. But I think they mainly probably came up from roots, but. Anyway I. Probably not the proper distance, but I end up. Kind of. Let some grow space out and then cut all the other ones that. 4 But I've got a number of them that's a lot closer and and I just let them grow and and. Island Joy and I enjoy telling people about them who don't know anything thing at all about Paul Paul's but. I eat a few, but not very very many each year and jennies made. Some Popo breads like sore like banana bread. Did you make preserves, honey or anything else?

M. Cissell:

No, she said no.

Tony Cissell:

Did you try to make ice cream once, Sir?

Speaker 3

Tony might have, but I did.

Tony Cissell:

Oh, Tony did try make my son trying to make something. And he's my sons. Got some friends that. Really like the paw paws in and. And your dad, Kevin. Some people that he gave them, you know, paw paws too too that worker. Or friends.

M. Cissell:

Yeah, we had one family friend who liked them, so he would give her yours. I I think you you you remain a little humble about your papaws because you say you don't, you know, do that much or know that much. But you know they win the State Fair almost every time you enter. So how many? Times have you? Won the State Fair with your Papas.

Speaker 3

Go look at all the dining room table. I've got his ribbons spread out. But that's not all of them. Some of them I don't know where they are. I'm looking for pictures. I had some pictures of. The table at the State Fair, whether his purpose out of it, but I I can't find it, but you might be able to maybe.

M. Cissell:

That's OK. Do you remember?

Tony Cissell:

Well, like she said, she's got the ribbons spread out in her over. You know, and it just says, like, what's the? Say first or. What's it say?

Speaker 3

Some nuts, I think.

Tony Cissell:

Yeah. Yeah, it does say pop off. This is, which is the craziest Internet.

M. Cissell:

Do you remember the first year you entered them? Was it shortly after you moved here?

Speaker 3

The earliest ribbon he has is 2011. OK, but that might not be the first year. That's just the latest sacrifice, OK?

M. Cissell:

Did they produce fruit when you first moved here, or were they still young?

Tony Cissell:

No. Yeah, they produce fruit, but the one tree did anyway.

M. Cissell:

Yeah. And you, you don't know anything about like the previous owners. If they planted them or how long they've been.

Tony Cissell:

There no, I don't know if they.

Speaker 3

Planned them or one tree was really old. I know. It looked terrible. Oh. Broken limbs and but it still kept producing. It's like the mother tree. The dead family got blown over and the tornado.

Tony Cissell:

Yeah, well, those tornadoes. Those trees came down and not just about all limbs off of it. But it is terrible shape, but it was still living hell before that happened.

M. Cissell:

Yeah, and that the tornado that knocked it over, that was the one, was it last year or two years ago that that happened.

Speaker 3

April 13th of last year.

M. Cissell:

OK, no.

Tony Cissell:

That one is passed here.

M. Cissell:

2022.

Speaker 3

Yes, yes. OK.

Tony Cissell:

It wasn't this year it was 2022. They've been a tornado.

Speaker 3

I thought it was just a year ago, but. You can see from here that big stump that probably is what knocked it. The tree that was attached to that stump. Probably what knocked it down but.

M. Cissell:

And some people you know, they'll graft their paw paws and put different varieties on them, or they'll sell or, you know, try to give stuff to other people. But you.

Tony Cissell:

When we go to Kentucky State, there's people, but they're talk about drafting and that there's been times they showed, you know, how to draft and stuff. But I don't. Know anybody personally met? Met him at the Kentucky State, but I don't really know him.

Speaker 3

One of those articles. States that. When Kentucky State first started that program, they got seeds from the State Fair, from Paw Paw entries, so could be one of. His seedlings are one of the seeds. From his pawpaws became. A seedling and.

M. Cissell:

Maybe science can tell us the answer one bit.

Speaker 3

Yeah, genetics. Like they, they they can do that with animals and plants. Now it's just the DNA and them.

M. Cissell:

Yeah, I think they're just starting to develop that for pop-ups. Why do you think your pop paws do so well here?

Tony Cissell:

I don't know. I don't do, really what I ought to do as far as fertilize them or trim them the like. Turkish state. The bang. Lamb or the the main part of the tree they know was cut it so that you don't have to. The floor. They won't be up so high. You know where they're easier to pick and then stuff. And I need to do mine. Cut mine. The main thing to make it easier to to pick them. But.

Speaker 3

They cultivate. There's a plant them in rows. They're real neat and put white wash on the trunks. These just there's one right now growing up in the middle of a pine tree.

Tony Cissell:

And they naturally, Kentucky State, just like any orchard. They got them. The crept distance apart, you know one and they. Gotta mow nice underneath them and you know, so I there's, I know a number of people probably do what they should do to have a proper orchard, but I don't.

Speaker 3

For that man you interviewed in Indiana probably does everything if he's.

M. Cissell:

Here I'm going to pause it really quick because I see Isabella. OK so. We were talking about papaws. I kind of forget where we left off, but I'm wondering. I was asking you when's the best time to eat them?

Tony Cissell:

If you just want to try to best time, I think is right there after they get. Right, but not overly right. But as far as I'm concerned, so like people like bananas, some people like like order, almost black and some people like them when they just barely turn, you know. Just barely. They're still hard to, you know, and maybe a little green, you know, but I like them little bit after they. When they ripe, but not when they get, say, overly ripe, you know. Myself. But you know, that's like, say, different people got different preferences.

M. Cissell:

What would you say they taste like if you had to describe their flavor? That's a good answer.

Tony Cissell:

Different people say they taste like mangoes and some people love bananas, but no. Think they kind of got a fairly? Just taste myself is so anyway.

M. Cissell:

You said earlier, you know, not a lot of people know about them. So you know, do you feel like they've grown in popularity recently or do you think still a lot of people don't know about?

Tony Cissell:

Them I think a lot of people don't don't know, know about them and. I did take some over to like a farmers market one time just and I gave them to somebody, had a booth over there and told me to eat them, sell them or do everyone, but they want to. With them, you know. But like I said Oracle Oracle was in the New York Times. That guy was selling his for a lot of money healing. And I'm sure you. Probably people would if if you always took them over there, you could probably sell, sell them if you want to take the time to do it, you know, and last year. Was the. Like a bumper crop, biggest crop of pop holes I've ever hit since I've lived here. I had just all kinds and they just last loves had more and they kind of started earlier and lasted longer than normal.

M. Cissell:

And UM. What? What is something you think most people don't realize about them that maybe when they.

Tony Cissell:

Well, if they've got a really short shelf life. You know popos. If you don't, you can keep them in the frigerator and they'll last a little longer. But if you if you just leave sit on the table or some. They're not going to last. They ripen in a few days. It seemed like they pay us with the normal. People like to eat a man, you know.

M. Cissell:

UM. We were talking earlier about there's a song way down Yonder in the Paw paw patch. And you said maybe you had heard it as a kid or growing up.

Tony Cissell:

I can't remember. I can remember hearing it, but I can't remember when I first, you know, heard it or anything but. And then when I first heard the song, I might not know him what a Popo was still.

M. Cissell:

Any other things like that and like? Song or you know. Culture or? Things like that, where papaws come up.

Tony Cissell:

No, I'd like say I. Volunteer at Church memorial force and I've got a line number of people out there. Interested in them? Still food. Just taking them out to the forest, usually I. Gave him some over here, but this year I didn't have hardly any and I think that poorly. Do you got a bumper crop one year that. You just have a lot lesser crop than next year, you know.

M. Cissell:

Yeah, I guess UMI wanted to ask about volunteering at Jefferson Memorial Forest. When did you start that? And what do you do when you volunteer?

Tony Cissell:

Well, volunteerly, they had people on hikes and. Help help fish. That is the main 2 the. Things, but sometimes they had different activities that kind of organize that. And that help the leader. To help the kids participate in and that types stuff. They sometimes when they have. Visitors for one reason, though, that have a special day or something. I might help them show the snakes or box turtles or what have you.

M. Cissell:

And you still you still volunteer there today?

Tony Cissell:

Very rarely have the force hiking like if they used to kind of stop us.

Speaker 3

OK.

Tony Cissell:

Top of the hill go. Down and I just don't like walking like that anymore.

M. Cissell:

And would you like to speak about persimmons? I know you don't grow persimmons, but.

Tony Cissell:

I don't know much about them. Others I know if. Try to eat one that's not quite ripe, but you kind of draw your mouth up when you try to bite into it. And people used to. Get one just to get somebody to do it, you know.

M. Cissell:

When you were a kid, would, were you like, was that or just you had heard about?

Tony Cissell:

That well, I somehow mother found about that fairly early back. Came remember exactly when you know, but I can remember. Trying them fairly early, or my dad or somebody else may have got me to do. It I don't know.

M. Cissell:

Do you think persimmons are more well known than papaws or OK? UM. Who do you? Who do you talk to about Papas or who helps you with Papas or? You go to Kentucky State. Every for their third Thursday thing in September.

Tony Cissell:

I used to go there, but I've been out just like everybody just happened to be sitting, you know, close to talk to them. But, you know, not necessarily even about Paul Paul's, you know, and.

M. Cissell:

So not necessarily it would you would, would you say you're in like a community of people who grows papaws or you have friends that grow papaws or is it kind of just yourself?

Tony Cissell:

Mainly just just myself. Like you say, if you go to that third Thursday, there's a that's all those people, most of them are growing, but if not, they're at least interested. In it you know.

M. Cissell:

You've brought up a New York Times article and I, you know, I I got that and you got like, a magazine from Kentucky State called like acknowledge. But do you like to read other things or have you read books about pop paws or?

Tony Cissell:

I'm thinking some some. I know read some articles about Paul Paul's, you know, and I'm interested if I see something about Paul Paul's I'll read it you know.

M. Cissell:

Well, we'll move on now to the objects you have with you. That kind of represent your identity and things that are important to you. So I like how we were talking about what's in your pockets. Are out most days, would you say most days you kind of? Go out on the property and walk around, or you check on things.

Tony Cissell:

Go out firm round and sometimes I'm may just be bribed by Gator. Like up to the mailbox and I did playing some Cypress trees, both Cypress and. Kind of check on them. In fact, the last time I checked on them, a deer had got in to it and broke off a few limbs. That and have a couple down by the pond that they got into real bad. Cypress trees in, so I'm gonna have to put some type of fencing around them to keep the deer out of.

M. Cissell:

But you're saying you know, you keep these things in your pocket?

Tony Cissell:

That's just. That's something I'll just have in my pocket every day. Like I say, the cell phone is mainly for my wife to try to call me or if she wants me. But my hearing is not that great. So sometimes you know, she's called me sit. Tell me. She called me three times and I didn't answer. She'll.

M. Cissell:

So how would you describe this object? The cell phone since you know. The recording you can't really see it, so how would you describe it?

Tony Cissell:

I I don't quite know what's.

M. Cissell:

Like its color, its shape. The model.

Tony Cissell:

It's say old, it's old and small. Rectangular. Yeah, that's what I. And I don't even. No, enough, like a lot of stuff you could do with it that I don't do.

M. Cissell:

Well, it's a flip phone, but it I don't think it. Has. Yeah, like the smartphone capabilities, but maybe it does.

Tony Cissell:

I don't know what. It actually was it you can do. I I know you know got. Some phone numbers of people that I can look up and call them if I want want to and.

M. Cissell:

Looks like it's got a camera, but you probably.

Tony Cissell:

Right. And I never use it.

M. Cissell:

So what's the next thing?

Tony Cissell:

Pocket knife and I do use that real regular just. I use it. Regular to just to cut stuff or it seemed like that need need it most days. You use it for something the. I always have one. I don't. I used to seem like read a little stuff more, but I don't. We don't much anymore, I've. But I dislike you, cause comes in handy.

M. Cissell:

It's small but.

Tony Cissell:

Right. And I've offered all I've maybe had like a bigger book knife. I maybe kept them, but then for one reason another. Didn't think it was. Need to have it, but life, you know.

M. Cissell:

Is this like deer antler that's on the side or?

Tony Cissell:

I don't. I can't even remember where I got that knife and. It's not like. So my I kept one for a long time. My dad gave me an and something happened to it. I don't know what ever happened and I'm sorry I lost it, you know.

M. Cissell:

And then.

Tony Cissell:

My rosary, my wife and I normally. All about. Roughly five days a week. And even when we normally say it before some time after little before bedtime, well, little before the news, normally, sometime say between 8:00 and 10:10 o'clock when we normally said. But like say. Whereby, say something. Would send seven days, but then some. Sometimes we might just say it two or three times, but I'd say we normally average spend 5 * a week kill roughly. But my sister made this particular rosary for me. She's made, I don't know gobs and gobs. And she made a lot for. My I think she made my grandkids still for the First Communion and stuff. Geez, I think she does a good job.

M. Cissell:

Yeah, it's very nice. Do you know what kind of beads she used or no.

Tony Cissell:

There's, like a rosary house over on pop level Rd. And they came, the beads and the crucifix and the metal came from over there. But and maybe the war that even you know use but.

M. Cissell:

Then you keep it in a.

Tony Cissell:

Pouch I keep it in a pouch. Just goes. I got other stuff and just so it's you can't most time keep the keys in a different pocket. But. It would get tangled up with stuff if I didn't keep it in a little pouch.

M. Cissell:

Why? Why keep it in your pocket all the time? If you only do it at night, does it bring?

Tony Cissell:

I just like having it with me.

Speaker 3

Something like that.

M. Cissell:

Feels comforting or yes? Yeah. Well, is there anything I didn't cover about pawpaws or things you want to mention about your life?

Tony Cissell:

When I was really young, I was. Birth timer and Chad, I wonder if you know that or not, but like I have we used to go visit. I had a cousin that was a nun and we would go and visit and we would go in and visit. They had a big piano and I just but go and get her the pianos and just stay there the whole time we was there.

M. Cissell:

It reminds me of when Isabella would hide under the table here. But yeah, I don't think I knew that about you, but I think. You did a good job being interviewed.

Tony Cissell:

I doubt it. I don't think I'm good, but anyway, thank you for doing.

M. Cissell:

It. Yeah. Do you want to talk about the ribbons on the table?

Tony Cissell:

It just I think it's for everyone's over. I damn see him. I think it's ribbons over the years picked up at the fair. Then fruits and nuts category and that's what it says on the ribbons.

M. Cissell:

With that. Yeah. Do you remember like any of these years, anything particular?

Tony Cissell:

And like she said, a lot of we had a lot. More than this?

Speaker 3

But this is just a few of this, yeah.

Tony Cissell:

I don't know why I would save these if.

Speaker 3

Last, when they didn't put the date on it, that's. From this year.

M. Cissell:

OK. Yeah. Do you want to maybe quickly just say, like the years and the place?

Speaker 3

Yeah, I've got them. Like, these are these are 2015, I mean 2011.

M. Cissell:

Yeah. So you got 4.

Tony Cissell:

Within 1/3.

M. Cissell:

And then 2013 you got. 4th, 2nd and 1st. So that means you would have done 3 entries, right? Three different places.

Speaker 3

And in that year, he would have had three. Last year, you just had two, didn't you? This this year.

Tony Cissell:

Yeah. Well, actually, I think and you'll end up getting one entry, you know some other, some type of confusion about the interest.

M. Cissell:

And when you enter, it's like a couple on a plate, right? Five on a plate.

Speaker 3

They'd be uniform in size and free of blemishes. Are there supposed? To be right.

M. Cissell:

So you kind of have to time when you pick them, right?

Tony Cissell:

Well, you, you, you got a sense. It's the fair certain days. Then you got to have them there before. So you got to really most time pick. A little bit. Before they're actually ready to pick and.

Speaker 3

That's why he has to cut them down because they're not right yet.

M. Cissell:

And you were saying earlier you use. What's the tool you use to cut them down and?

Tony Cissell:

Then like it got sticks with trimmer on it, you know? And so I cut the lamb cause it's hard to to just try to cut the. Of the little stemmers Ceasar to cut the limb and and she catches them in a basket being a fishing net.

M. Cissell:

Like a team, yeah. So that was 20/13/2014.

Speaker 3

Like I've. Got the blue ones with the numbers on top like. Yeah, if they're stacked up, they're the same.

M. Cissell:

Year. Yeah. So 2014, you got 4th, 2nd and 1st. 2015. 4th, 2nd, 1st. 2016 third, second and 1st. 2017 third and 1st. 2019 third second. 3rd and 2nd. And then 2023, first, those are the ones that we have out.

Speaker 3

And he showed in 2022, but I don't know. Where the rooms are.

M. Cissell:

Yeah. And you probably showed in 2018, right? But we don't.

Tony Cissell:

Right.

Speaker 3

You have shown in 2010, yeah.

Tony Cissell:

One one year. That there wasn't any Polish. Remember, I don't remember what year it was, but but one year didn't have any fault. Like, if you have a real late freeze, it kills all blooms and.

Speaker 3

And then when coding. When COVID was. First here, did they have the fair?

Tony Cissell:

I don't remember. But there was. I don't know what happened to once all we've been there for. Number of years and we had ribbons and we probably just didn't save them.

Speaker 3

Well, that would have been 12 years ago, so.

Tony Cissell:

But I think we. When when they first started? Paul Paul throw. Them up and. Tell you state we had entered that year. I know and that because they end up. Maybe call me or something you'll about. Paul Paul's you know.

M. Cissell:

Well, any, anything else, any memories it brings up or stories.

Speaker 3

No, I had some pictures, but I can't get them on my phone so.

M. Cissell:

That's OK, I think. This is good. Well, thank you, Poppy, for being interviewed and sharing.

Tony Cissell:

You're welcome. Think I'm very good.

M. Cissell:

OK.