

Give the camera five seconds, you can pick it up.

I was batching it, living in a rented room. And really, was very much intent on saving my money to pay off the loan from Stanford which I felt was hanging around my neck like a millstone. And he invited me to his house, and we started talking. And his wife said, what are you doing for entertainment and so on and the old story, have I got a girl for you. And fixed me up with a lady that lived in Chicago not that far from where I lived.

And we had a blind date and hit it off very well. And had a lot of fights in the beginning. Never had very many fights after when we were married, but we had all kinds of fights even before we were married.

You got them out of the way.

Well, I think we got most of them out of the way. We still had a few left.

What's her name?

Eleanor. And it took us, I think, a year before we got married, maybe a little more even. And when we decided finally to get married, she had been married before and so she was quite hesitant. And when I finally decided to get married, here was my old rabbi from Berlin, Rabbi Slasensky, the chief rabbi, the only rabbi, at the temple in Madison, Wisconsin.

I had no relatives in Chicago. She had no relatives in Chicago. So I called up my friend and said, I'm ready to get married. You bar mitzvahed me. And one weekend, we went up with a non-Jewish couple and a dog to be married in Madison, Wisconsin.

Was she from here also?

No, no. She is from Cleveland, born in Cleveland, and raised in Mount Clemens, Michigan. And been happily ever married ever since.

Wonderful.

So coming back on the Korea, we lived in Danville here. And I commuted to San Leandro. We had one boy, and then we had another one on the way. And now, mother has nesting instincts and wanted to know whether we will be here or we will be in Chicago. We had two pediatricians because we didn't know how long the project is going to last. I remember going to my boss and saying to him, you know, my wife is putting up a squawk. She doesn't mind having a baby and California, doesn't mind having a baby in Chicago, but she doesn't want to have a baby in between those two. And the way we are going, it may very well happen that way.

So he said, well, the project is coming to an end anyway and we'll transfer you back. And as I said, I decided to look around. And I ran into my boss that was my first boss at Continental Can Company McKiernan who had left the company and went to Armor Meatpacking and was a research director over there. And I told him that I was looking around. On the spur of the moment, he offered me a job to come with him to Armor. And that's what I did.

And I started out there with him to work for him. I think I worked for him for about a year or so. And then found out that there was an opening in Armor new product development marketing. And here, I had a business degree and I saw an opportunity to jump over into the business end of it. And I went to my friend and said, look, you know I love working for you, but here's an opportunity to use my whole background. He says don't tell me anymore, I already had put your name in.

And I made the switch and worked for him a total of, I think, it was four years and was Assistant Director of New Products and Acquisitions, which was a fascinating job, and it was a whole new direction for me to go. And all these years, I had been looking for the opportunity to come back to California. And we never bought a house. We always rented, always ready if something comes up on the spur of the moment, we'll go to California because my parents were

there.

And by that time, we had two boys.

What's their names?

Bob and Bill. The older one is Bob and the younger one is Bill. And so we decided that maybe we should look around and see whether there is something in California again. And I interviewed in California, and it was an interesting job, but couldn't get together and it fell by the wayside. But somehow, once you make up your mind that you're going to leave a company, word gets around. And I was approached by a headhunter with a job opportunity in Chicago as a Director of New Products for a large corporation.

And it looked too good to pass up. So I took that one. And it's an interesting psychological thing when all these years, every time I had a chance to go to California, we visited with our folks at least once a year. With my folks I should say. And every time we came back, we would say to each other, gee, you know, that's God's country out there. It's green, it's gorgeous. What are we doing in Chicago in the wintertime with the kind of weather that we have?

And then when this job opportunity came up in Chicago that was too good to pass up, we decided the hell with it, we're going to settle in Chicago. And then shortly afterward, I had a trip to California and I came back and I said to Ellie, you know, California isn't all that it's drummed up to be. The hills and brown, you know, and it was hotter than the blazes. And I saw negatives I had never seen before.

So we bought a house, and we settled down. And we all said that our future would be in Chicago. And two years later, the same company that had interviewed me before came back and said whether I was still interested in moving to San Francisco or at least to California. And two months later, we came to California, and I've been there ever since.

OK.

Well, it's also a good place to stop.