

Sun Cities Area Historical Society

ORAL HISTORY PROJECT

Case # 212

Interview with John and Ina Dodt

January 22, 1992

Place of Birth: Washington, Indiana

John was a DEVCO salesman in the early Sun City years; Ina was a hostess for 5 years.

Synopsis:

- John was born 92 years ago in Washington, Indiana; two sisters.
- Father was a railroad cabinet maker;
- Left high school in Jr. year; drafted into the war.

- Met wife at a play; married in Vermont.
- Worked 40 years with Wells Fargo.
- No children.

- Visited Sun City in 1960; loved it. Safe place to live.

- Ina was born in southern Illinois; graduated from high school; worked in dress shop; later owned dress shop.
- Enjoys dancing and volunteering at the hospital.
- In early Sun City, community was small enough to know everyone; many pioneers now gone.
- Against incorporation.
- Lived in Ray, AZ (home of the Consolidated Mining Company) until about 17, went into Phoenix to work during the Depression. Picked cotton, waited tables, babysat, and worked at a root beer stand.
- Met future husband in Colorado, he was in the mining business as an engineer/superintendent of a mine in Colorado.
- Married in 1934 in Colorado.
- I remember my husband and his father talking about Social Security. Got about \$26 a month. In Sun City, Social Security helped early residents. Could sell old place, come out here and live fairly well with Social Security.

- After husband died, I moved to Douglas, Wyoming, to a ranching/mining town.
- Remarried; new husband owned garage and car agency in Wyoming.
- Governor appointed me head of the State's 25th Anniversary committee.
- When he retired we moved to Sun City; there were no houses north of Grand Ave. at that time.

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Release Form

This interview agreement is made and entered into this 22nd day of January, 1992, by and between John W. Dodt & Ina M. Dodt (herein after called "Interviewee") and Melanie Sturgeon (herein after called "Interviewer".)

I agree to participate in a tape-recorded interview with Interviewer in association with her research on Sun City, this research being done under the supervision of the Arizona State University Graduate Program in Public History.

This agreement relates to any and all materials originating from this interview or subsequent interviews by the Interviewer, namely the tape recordings and the indexes and abstracts of the interview, and any other written materials, including but not limited to notes, transcripts, or any other materials prepared from the tapes.

In consideration of the mutual covenants, conditions, and terms set forth below, the parties hereby agree as follows:

1. Interviewee irrevocably assigns to the Sun City Area Historical Society and the Arizona Historical Foundation, co-owners, all his/her copyright, title, literary property rights, and interest in and to the Interview.
2. By virtue of this assignment, Interviewer and the Sun City Area Historical Society and the Arizona Historical Foundation will have the right to use the interview for research, educational, and other purposes, including possible publication.
3. All materials from the Interview, including but not limited to transcriptions or other finding aids prepared from the tapes, may be copied, reproduced and/or published.
4. Interviewee acknowledges that he/she will receive no remuneration or compensation for either his/her participation in the Interview or for the rights assigned hereunder.
5. Interviewer and the Sun City Area Historical Society and the Arizona Historical Foundation agree to honor any and all reasonable restrictions on the use of the Interview, if any, for the time specified below as follows:

22 January 1992

Signed John W. Dodt Date 1/22/92

Interviewee: John & Ina Dodt (name)

(address)

Signed Melanie J. Sturgeon Date 1/22/92

Interviewer Melanie J. Sturgeon (name)
1535 E. Hampton Circle (address)
Mesa, AZ 85204

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