

Oral History Interview of Mr. Lee Guetterman

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Location of Interview: Recording Studio of the Student Radio Station, 90.9 The Light

Name of Interviewee: Mr. Lee Guetterman

Name of Interviewers: Lowell Walters and Mike Cobb

Transcriber: Jesse Ronda

Interview Length: (2:39:18)

Notes:

Walters: (0:01) Welcome to this interview in the oral history project of the Liberty University archives. This interview is being conducted on October 2nd, 2010. Today we're interviewing Mr. Lee Guetterman. My name is Lowell Walters and I'll be conducting the interview today along with Mike Cobb. Greetings, Mike.

Cobb: (0:18) Afternoon, Lowell.

Walters: (0:19) And greetings to you, Mr. Guetterman.

Guetterman: (0:22) Good day to you guys.

Walters: (0:24) It's good to have you with us today. Well, we'll get started with just your general background information and history. When were you born, where did you grow up, a little bit about your family history?

Guetterman: (0:36) Well, my parents met and married at Tennessee Temple University in Chattanooga and, before they graduated, they had, had me in 1958, October 22nd, October...what am I thinking?

Cobb: (0:51) [*laughter*]

Guetterman: (0:52) November 22nd, who am I kidding? That's what happens when you get old, I guess [*laughter*] but...

Walters: (0:54) [*laughter*]

Cobb: [*laughter*] I was going to say, we're both October birthdays. Yeah.

Guetterman: (1:00) Oh, are you? My birthday's on Thanksgiving every so often...

Walters: (1:04) Oh, yeah.

Guetterman: (1:05) so that was kind of fun.

Walters: (1:06) So they're even more thankful [*laughter*].

Guetterman: (1:07) Yeah, yeah. So, so that's where I started and we spent three years there before my dad went to Indiana to start a church, which is still in existence today. He pastored there for just a few years and then the Navy called him, because he had applied to be a chaplain; off to California we went. And then I grew up, basically, out there through high school.

Walters: (1:35) Was that in San Diego or...?

Guetterman: (1:36) Oceanside, which is north San Diego County; loved that. We actually moved all around San Diego County because of being in the Navy. He got transferred to different bases there or then would go out to sea occasionally and, but all, all through that time, you know, I loved uh...started playing baseball. My dad said, "Hey, let's go play," and he put me on a team that I didn't play but one inning every game and as a young kid growing up, and I'm sure you can appreciate this, that's not very much fun.

Cobb: (2:11) No.

Guetterman: (2:12) So, and the next year he asked me, "Do you want to play again?" I said, "Well, not like that. That wasn't any fun." He found a different league for me, where they required three innings every game. That was fun. And so...

Walters: (2:27) Was that Little League or Dixie Youth or did they have that out there?

Guetterman: (2:29) That was like...yes, seven, eight years old.

Walters: (2:31) Ok.

Guetterman: (2:32) So that from that point on, obviously, you can tell what happened. I just enjoyed playing that because I got to play. You know, any little kid wants to do that. And then at some point, you have to have, start having those dreams of being a major league player and hitting that game winning homerun, you know, like every, every young boy does and it just kept spurring me on and, and as they say, the rest is history.

Walters: (3:03) And then, when did pitching start to emerge for you? Were you pitching in that earliest day there for that one inning or were you second base or how...?

Guetterman: (3:12) Well, that very first year that I played, they stuck me out in right field. I can remember these fields being dirt and I would be drawing dinosaurs in the dirt...

Cobb: (3:22) [*laughter*]

Guetterman: (3:23) because the ball never went out there, you know, so it wasn't baseball for me. But as time went on, I showed that I had a strong arm so they put me at shortstop; a left handed shortstop, you know, at nine, ten, eleven years old. And then they said, "Man, this guy throws pretty hard. Let's put him on the mound and see what he can do." I remember a few things but one of the things I do remember was hitting my best friend right in the back [*chuckle*] when he was at the plate. And then I, "Oh, I know that hurt," you know. But, and just would, I just kept getting better, you know, started throwing strikes. My dad taught me how to pitch in the backyard and he used what the Dodgers still use today, and that was a string box. He would put two poles in either batter's box and put a string across the top of the strike zone, a string across the bottom of the strike zone and then, of course, the, the width of the plate, two strings

attached to those others to make, to create a strike zone box. And then he said, “Throw it in the box. Throw it in the box until you get ten in a row in the box.” So that was my pitching training early on. And that was from the Dodgers. I found out later, only after I was in the big leagues, I went to spring training with the Dodgers in '93 and they have the box.

Cobb: (4:47) [*laughter*]

Guetterman: (4:48) I says, “I’ve seen that before,” [*laughter*].

Walters: (4:49) Sure.

Cobb: (4:50) I know what to do here [*laughter*].

Guetterman: (4:51) Yeah.

Walters: (4:52) So your dad was big into baseball?

Guetterman: (4:53) Yeah, well now, he loved sports. He was always...he was my sister’s softball coach, my baseball coach, my brother’s baseball coach. So, baseball, softball were their thing. All of us...there’s five kids. My brother Bob, who came here to Liberty, played football, my sister Cathy, the youngest of the five, came here to play volleyball; played with Theresa Bream...

Walters: (5:23) Ok

Guetterman: (5:24) And then the oldest girl, which was third in our, our sibling line, was Karen. She came here on a softball scholarship and stayed, got homesick, and left, so. The only one that didn’t come here was Peggy, who was the middle girl, second to youngest. She got married, like, right out of high school and went into the Air force, so a totally different path.

Walters: (5:50) And, and you were the oldest?

Guetterman: (5:51) I was the oldest. I was the first one out and then my brother the next year.

Cobb: (5:57) But you, you not only went out, you went from California...

Guetterman: (6:01) To Virginia, yeah, to Lynchburg. That was an interesting, that was an interesting trip.

Cobb: (6:05) Was your dad hoping to get stationed in Norfolk or...?

Guetterman: (6:08) No, he stayed there. He had written a letter to Coach Worthington. He said, "I want my son to come play for you at a Christian school." Well, back then, there's no budget, right? There's not money at Liberty in 197...well, I guess my junior year is when he started communicating with him which would be the spring of '76. And then by the spring of '77, my senior year in high school, we had already worked it out that I was going to be coming here. And he had verified my ability through, Coach had verified my ability through a former teammate of his named Marty [Kio], who was a scout for the Giants. And Marty had actually told him, I found this out last night at the dinner, that he said, "Oh, you're not going to get him. He's going to sign." Well I didn't know that.

Cobb: (7:09) [*laughter*]

Walters: [*laughter*]

Guetterman: (7:10) So, and he had asked, I guess it was he that had asked me if I wanted to play pro ball. I said, "I don't know if I'm ready for pro ball yet."

Cobb: (7:16) That was Marty or...

Guetterman: (7:17) Marty, yeah.

Cobb: (7:18) Ok.

Guetterman: (7:19) And I said, "I think I want to go to college first." Well, here I am in San Diego County, you know, prime, you know, weather for playing baseball...

Walters: (7:30) That's what I hear [*laughter*].

Guetterman: (7:31) I'm a, I'm an all-county all-star for San Diego County, you know, big baseball area. The only other big one is, would be Florida, ok? So I'm pretty good, right? I hit .540 my senior year. I pitch pretty good, ok? So I'm a pretty good baseball player for high school. Well, I had one college recruit me; Linfield College in Oregon. They're, like, NAIA national champions two, three years in a row at the time and, [*clears throat*] and they were offering me an academic scholarship. And I go, I'm, "Oh, I don't know if I can do that," [*laughter*].

Cobb: (8:12) [*laughter*]

Guetterman: (8:13) I wasn't, I wasn't an academic all-American type, so...

Walters: (8:19) [*laughter*]

Guetterman: (8:20) to be pressured to have to keep my grades up to keep a scholarship was a little more than I wanted to deal with but nobody else, nobody else showed any interest; nobody. And that to me is the hand of God directing my path where I should go.

Cobb: (8:43) But when you left San Diego County and all that is, sort of, associated with San Diego County, you came to...

Guetterman: (8:50) [*laughter*]

Cobb: (8:51) Lynchburg, Virginia, did you ever sort of wonder about the mysteries of God's...?

Guetterman: (8:57) Oh, totally.

Cobb: (8:58) [*laughter*]

Walters: [*laughter*]

Guetterman: (8:59) I come, I come from an area where baseball is almost a prime directive, you know, the fields are immaculate there, all over the place. You, you go play a pickup game on a nicer field than we played at out here in Lynchburg when I got here. I get off the plane, I

know nobody, zero...ok, well, let me back up a minute. At first, they asked me if I wanted to come to Liberty to play. I said, "No, I don't want to go that far away." That's three thousand miles.

Walters: (9:30) Al Worthington is calling you at that point after...

Guetterman: (9:31) Yes, yes.

Walters: (9:32) talking, write...getting your dad's letters?

Guetterman: (9:33) Right, and then getting the confirmation from Marty that I can play. I don't want to go that far. Well, then he gets these two guys on the phone that are playing here that are from California, ok?

Cobb: (9:50) Ah.

Guetterman: (9:51) The problem, the problem was that he didn't tell me they were seniors and wouldn't be here when I got here.

Walters: (9:58) [*laughter*]

Guetterman: (9:59) So, I show up, these guys already graduated, ok? These guys sounded really sharp; guys I wanted to get to know, hang with, and learn from, really sharp guys. They're not here.

Walters: (10:14) Who were they?

Guetterman: (10:15) Jeff [Mency] was one and then, there were two brothers, uh...what was uh...I can't think of their names now. But they, they ended up being, one is a youth pastor out in Arizona now and Jeff [Mency] is a director of admissions up at a college in Pennsylvania. I was trying to think...maybe it will come to me in a little bit. But they sounded really sharp. Guys I wanted to get to know and I knew I would enjoy playing with. I get here, they're not here. I get

off the plane, Coach picks me up, takes me over to the old Thomas Road church. He says, “This is where school is,” and I went...

Walters: (11:11) [*laughter*]

Cobb: [*laughter*]

Guetterman: (11:12) “Where’s the campus, right? Where’s the...”

Walters: (11:13) [*laughter*] This is the fall of ’77, is that what you said?

Guetterman: (11:16) Yes, yes, fall of ’77. And I’m going, “Where’s the campus?” “I’ll take you there in a little bit, ok?” So I get checked in over at the church for school and all of that and, and then we go up to the campus and there’s nothing there. They’re building the first dorm. They’re about half way finished with the first, this first little square building. It was all of our classrooms and the cafeteria in that first little square, square building, maybe the science hall now?

Cobb: (11:47) I thinking it might be the other one.

Walters: (11:49) It’s the one beside it probably.

Guetterman: (11:52) It was the very front one...

Walters: (11:53) Yeah.

Guetterman: (11:54) that was closest to the ravine.

Walters: (11:55) Yeah, yeah. That’s where business and government is right now.

Guetterman: (12:00) Yeah.

Walters: (12:01) Yeah.

Guetterman: (12:02) That was the whole school, ok? And it wasn’t even done yet, alright? So we’re having classes in Thomas Road Baptist Church along with the high school that they had

going on. And here we go, “Ok, wow, this is really a culture shock for me,” you know, because I’m coming from...

Cobb: (12:18) The oceans and the beaches and...

Guetterman: (12:21) Oh, yeah, the, the perfect lifestyle that you could dream of, right? And, and we were, our high school was thirty-four hundred kids, ok? My, my class was, was bigger than the incoming freshman class here, in high school, alright?

Walters: (12:42) Sure.

Guetterman: (12:43) So, we had huge high school and I come to this where, where this is smaller than my high school, ok? I had no idea what Liberty was about, no idea. I remember seeing Dr. Falwell on TV and that’s where my dad got the idea. And then he heard that Al Worthington, a former big league pitcher, would be a good person to teach me. So, I mean, he, you know, God really used him to do a lot of good things for me.

Cobb: (13:11) Did you have a lot of your, did you have any classes still over...you said you had some classes over at Thomas Road still with the high school...

Guetterman: (13:17) Oh, all of them.

Cobb: (13:18) When did you start taking classes then over here on Liberty Mountain?

Guetterman: (13:21) It wasn’t until second semester...

Cobb: (13:23) Ok.

Guetterman: (13:24) that we moved up to the mountain and...

Cobb: (13:28) Got introduced to the red clay?

Guetterman: (13:30) Oh, man. Yes, without asphalt, without sidewalks, and the rains would come. But when I got to where I, they took me up, brought me up here and says, “This is our

campus,” I just said, “Oh, no.” I just kept, everywhere we went, “Oh, no. Oh, no.” And then where, where I stayed, ok? It was on Grace Street. Now, are you familiar with Grace Street?

Cobb: (13:57) I’m not that familiar with it.

Guetterman: (13:59) This is, this is the...

Walters: (14:01) Is that towards Thomas Road the old church or is that downtown?

Guetterman: (14:04) This is downtown.

Cobb: (14:05) Oh, ok.

Walters: Ok, in a hotel?

Guetterman: (14:06) No. The Ramada was the hotel, which now a different name I think...

Walters: (14:10) Is it the Holiday Inn?

Guetterman: (14:11) Travel Inn or something like that.

Walters: (14:12) Oh, Travel Inn. Oh, ok.

Guetterman: (14:14) That was a Ramada and there were several of the guys staying there. And then they had this Old Folk’s Home on Grace Street that was three floors, a three story building, and the first floor was still being used as an Old Folk’s Home; it was still in business. The second and third floors, they just stacked us in there. I’m serious. We had about a ten by ten room with, with three guys, ok? So we ended up stacking the beds three high so we could have some room in the room because each one had their own little commode and sink and then there were four showers at the end of the hall and I don’t know how many, there were too many guys, ok, way too many guys. If you wanted a hot shower you got up at three thirty in the morning. Ok, if you wanted any shower, you got up at five thirty, ok, because the buses start, were running at seven o’clock. Alright, so, by the time, if you were late to get to the shower, you were walking in three inches of water in the bathroom because it was just like makeshift showers.

There were four or five of them for eighty or more guys, ok? So it was just like, just, just, I mean, just like you're, I, I think of cattle being run through...

Walters: (15:34) [*laughter*]

Guetterman: (15:35) a, through stalls, you know, just uh...and that was, that was a daily deal, ok? And if you didn't get there early, you ran out of hot water, no question, ok? So, there's many mornings we just didn't take a shower, ok? Just try to get one the night before and call it good. Our study hall in that facility was the operating room at the end of the hall with the big light; and the operating table was a permanent fixture in that room so we had to kind of work around it and, and stuff but that's what it, that was our study hall. We didn't have any food there. We had to walk a mile to the hotel downtown, I don't know if you remember that, but they used, that was part, more, that was, kind of, the main area where people stayed, college kids stayed; that six floor old hotel that was already been condemned...

Cobb: (16:29) [*chuckle*]

Guetterman: (16:30) ok? So, that was where we had to go for every meal, ok? But Grace Street is in the very bad section of town. Three to four nights a week was screaming, hollering, car alarms, just, sirens, ok? And that's, that's where we were. Every morning we'd get up, watched all these buses coming from the hotel going by because they got right on the freeway right where our, right next to where our building was, going right by from the hotel because they were all full and we're waiting as they go by. Sometimes for thirty minutes out there and if you weren't out there, you didn't get a bus ride, so we're standing there. And I remember one morning I've got a little fever, I'm eighteen years old, I go, "What am I doing here?" This is a couple of weeks into school, watching these buses go by one after the other. And if you can feel that, you started, started feeling like a little depression, you know, because what, you know,

because here's where I live. There's no campus. They took us by, it took me by where they practice baseball; it was a little league and softball field in Miller Park, downtown Lynchburg, ok? We'll get into [laughter] that in a little bit. But all of this was, there's nothing good that I, that was here; that I, that my physical eyes could see; nothing, ok? So I called my dad and I go, "Dad, this is not for me," ok? Which a lot of people said and a lot of people followed through and left. He said to me, "I promised I would get you to school." And I said, "Well, I'd like to come home." He said, "Ok, come on home." "Well, I need some money." He said, "I didn't say I could bring you home."

Cobb: (18:41) [laughter]

Guetterman: (18:43) I felt like I was kicked out of the nest without wings and told, "Ok, now you got to fly on your own." And so I says, "[exhales]," you know? I'm, that's really depressing, you know, when you know, ok, you don't like it and you're stuck. Well, that was my first growing up moment. I can really be disappointed. I could really be in a depression. I could really hate it. I could really do all of that stuff but the grace of God that poured out on all of us that stayed just helped me work through that and helped me say, "Ok, I've got to make it anyway." And it really is the grace of God to be able to do that. And to stay under those circumstances, there's nothing else that can, there's nothing I did, really. I didn't want to be there. Um...

Walters: (19:42) What did you come to study though? I mean, you came to play ball...

Guetterman: (19:47) Yeah.

Walters: (19:48) I guess, but what, what was your major then and...?

Guetterman: (19:50) Well, I did the typical jock thing. I just took physical education major not getting a whole lot of guidance into, ok, what, down the road, would be an interest or anything

that I remember. So, physical education became my major and I enjoyed all the science part and, and the coaching and the, the, all of the sciences area, I really enjoyed. If I had it to do over, I'd have done something different, but, of course, everybody does that with hindsight, you know, it's twenty, twenty and you think, "Well, it would have helped me better if I would have," but it's helping me now, it really is. So, I'm glad I did what I did and chose the field to go into...

Walters: (20:31) Sure.

Guetterman: (20:32) Everybody who came here, not only had a major and a minor, mine was secondary education, but they all had a Bible minor as well. That was, like, prerequisite because of the nature of, the spiritual nature of the college, which I think is real important. Establishing uh...if you're going to change live one degree at a time, as the sign says on the entrance of this University, you know, you got to pour into them those things that you want them to be expressing when they leave.

Walters: (21:04) Couple of things with that. Were, were you a Christian then as a, as a young teenager or did you make the profession while you were here or...? You were reared in a Christian home but when did it become personal for you?

Guetterman: (21:19) That's a very interesting and good question because [*clears throat*] assumptions occur a lot in a, in a pastor's family. I heard it from the time I can remember, you know, but during my teenage, early teenage years, I would have this, this urge to go forward and I always reminded myself, "Well, I did when I was five." I remember my dad pounding on the pulpit and saying, "Get saved or you'll go to hell," you know, which is true. Ok, so I was kind of scared into it for like for fire insurance. It wasn't about a personal relationship with our Lord and savior. Now, at, and so, those yearnings or, or urges to go forward in my teenage years was telling me something. I didn't, wasn't sure what; I was missing something. Well, when I came

to Liberty, I mean, I, you know, growing up in the pastor's home, I won the Bible memorizations things in Sunday school. It was a challenge for me, ok? And then I...

Walters: (22:33) A competition.

Guetterman: (22:34) Yeah, exactly. And so I knew the Bible, you know, on the surface. I had it memorized; a lot of it, ok? But I didn't experience it as a life thing. When I came to Liberty, I was, I began, right off the bat, being a prayer group leader that they had in the dorms. And I remember one night, when Daniel Henderson was president, he would have these P.L.U.S. meetings, and it was powerful living through unified students, and, and they were completely spiritual in nature. And one night, and he would have testimonies from the students, giving and sharing and things. And I went and I'll never forget this girl's name, and her name is Judy [Trunarie], and she gave her testimony and it was like she was talking to me by myself about me; about where I was spiritually. And it showed me that what I did not have was a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. So my sophomore year, that night, after she spoke, the Lord spoke to me and I committed my life to Christ making him Lord of my life and that is the first night that the scriptures really came to life for me and to me. And then when I had started, and I, we were having small group that night and I went back and I told those guys, I said, "This is the first time that this is really is real to me." And I got baptized at Thomas Road Baptist Church, made my profession of faith publically there, called my parents, told them, you know, and every since then I've never had a doubt of the peace that's in my heart of who I belong to and who is my Lord. And one of the things we found, that I have discovered in those early years was, if you come to Liberty not a believer in Jesus Christ, one of two things is going to happen. You will leave because you can't take it or you will accept Christ because it's just, it's so thick, the spirit

was so thick and wonderful that one of those two things was going to happen. And so that, that was...

Walters: (25:11) Sure, sure. Now, we were talking about um...you lived on...somewhere along here, did you meet your wife here? Was she a student here?

Guetterman: (25:21) I did.

Walters: (25:22) Ok, well, we want to get that at some point but it's hard to, sometimes we don't know which way to go with this stuff. You had lived your, your first semester downtown. When did you migrate, eventually, up here to, to live in dorm circle, I suppose, was the...

Guetterman: (25:37) Yeah.

Walters: (25:38) first thing, so, when did that take place? Was that your sophomore year or was that even within your freshman year that you got up here then or...?

Guetterman: (25:47) The second semester of my freshman year which, because of where we were, we were the first ones to come on campus and we were very relieved of that.

Cobb: (25:56) [*laughter*]

Walters: [*laughter*]

Guetterman: (25:57) I was very glad. Where there were no roads, it was all dirt, the red clay, um...

Cobb: (26:02) At least some gravel maybe?

Guetterman: (26:04) Well, when it rained it didn't matter [*laughter*].

Cobb: (26:05) [*laughter*]

Guetterman: (26:06) Because the dirt just covered up all the gravel. But we were glad to be on campus in the first dorm. It would snow that early second semester and, of course, the only

people they made sure got up here, the first people they made sure got up here was the food crew so they could feed us, which we appreciated...

Cobb: (26:28) Yeah.

Guetterman: (26:29) very much, um...and it did. It snowed us out, well, probably about a week's worth that winter of classes.

Cobb: (26:36) Now, you're from San Diego. Had you seen snow?

Guetterman: (26:40) Yeah, the mountains from San Diego are about an hour and a half away...

Cobb: (26:44) Ok.

Guetterman: (26:45) so we could go up there and, and get in the snow...

Cobb: (26:46) That's true.

Guetterman: (26:47) so we kind of had the best of all worlds out there...

Walters: (26:50) [*laughter*]

Guetterman: (26:51) Had the beach just a few minutes away. The mountains and snow, I mean, it just wouldn't get any better than San Diego. That's why a lot of people like to live there.

Walters: (27:00) Sure.

Cobb: (27:02) What'd you do? So it got snowed out here, you said, but they at least brought you some food.

Guetterman: (27:06) Yes. Yeah, and we were glad...

Cobb: (27:09) But you also had Sunday school or church or chapel, what was it, a big tent, which, I guess...

Guetterman: (27:14) That, yeah, that came.

Cobb: (27:15) I understand it was kind of located about where we are now in this big DeMoss building.

Guetterman: (27:20) That's right, that's exactly right. And our Christian service, with the ball team was to, every morning, to prepare the tent; flaps up or flaps down depending on the weather. If it was cold, flaps would be down and the heaters would be turned on because they would have classes in that tent...

Cobb: (27:39) Really?

Guetterman: (27:40) Yeah, classes and then chapel...

Cobb: (27:41) How'd they divide up a tent for classes?

Guetterman: (27:45) Well, they had there big classes like...

Walters: (27:47) Probably New Testament, Old Testament...

Guetterman: (27:49) Yeah, New Testament surveys where, everybody, all your freshman class had to take them.

Cobb: (27:52) Ok.

Guetterman: (27:53) That kind of thing where, you know, there was several hundred people in there. And, of course, they would have chapel in it too. So that was our job, to take care of the tent every morning and every night.

Walters: (28:07) But Wednesdays and Sundays you're still being bused to the old Thomas Road on Thomas Road?

Guetterman: (28:10) That's right, that's right.

Walters: (28:12) Ok.

Guetterman: (28:13) Every Sunday morning, Sunday night, Wednesday night, we were on a bus to church. And then Monday, Wednesday during the day, and Friday we'd have chapel in the tent...I had forgotten about the tent. That was such a big deal. It was a huge tent...

Walters: (28:29) Well Sid Bream brought it up [*laughter*].

Guetterman: (28:31) Oh, really? Yeah.

Walters: (28:33) Or we may have asked him but, you know.

Cobb: (28:34) Well, we're just trying to imagine the tent in February, how that...

Guetterman: (28:37) Oh, well, we had those construction heaters; those propane heaters that, kind of, sit low that blow. Of course they make a lot of noise but with it closed and all the people inside, it wasn't too bad, yeah.

Cobb: (28:52) Really?

Guetterman: (28:53) So, but we would have to make sure that was all closed in. Sometimes it was miserable with rain outside and all that. And then, on top of that, didn't have jeans; we had dress shoes, slacks, shirt and tie was our minimum dress, ok? And it, when it rained, walking down from that, from that dorm up there and in the mud, I, I saw this personally, a guy walking, ok, his foot disappears, takes another step, and he comes out without a shoe on and it gets covered up by the, by the red clay and he's just standing there on one foot [*laughter*]. The stuff we had to deal with, so what ended up happening was everybody just kind of adjust, right? Well, they start wearing their old tennis shoes and you get into the building, the classroom building down there, and there's forty pair of tennis shoes just piled up over the corner where they'd come in and had to change their dress shoes for class because that was our dress code. And, of course, the dress code now, almost, almost none um...

Walters: (30:07) Well, you're touching on the very, I hate to say legalistic sort of rules that existed at Liberty back then, but your parents went to Tennessee Temple and that's pretty fundamental...

Guetterman: (30:23) Yes, yes.

Walters: (30:24) legalistic leaning organiza...or uh...institution, so, so your parents are probably, were they on the other end of the phone line at times just kind of chuckling at your, at your dilemma or they never talked about that?

Guetterman: (30:35) No, I guess my background being what it is, you just dealt with it.

Walters: (30:42) Right.

Guetterman: (30:43) This, ok, this is what it is, this is what it is for everybody, ok? You just got to work with it and deal with it.

Cobb: (30:49) So you never got to a spot looking for your tennis shoes to go someplace and...?

Guetterman: (30:54) Well, [*laughter*] yeah you do and you go, "Ok, where are my shoes," you know, "in all that pile of stuff?"

Cobb: (31:00) Where do you wash clothes, where did, I mean, where did...

Guetterman: (31:02) They had a, they have a central Laundromat in the dorms...

Cobb: (31:08) Ok.

Guetterman: (31:09) where you went and did your laundry and, of course, with the red clay, most of the time it didn't come out so...

Walters: (31:16) Sure.

Guetterman: (31:17) you just had red clay stained clothes.

Walters: (31:19) So where did you meet your wife along here? In class or...?

Guetterman: (31:20) Well, she, she was a freshman my senior year uh...and it's interesting. My senior year I come into this going, "Ok, I'm a senior. I'm about to get out of here. There's not going to be much better place to find a wife, a good wife," ok? It makes sense, you know, I'm at a Christian college that really strives to put Christ first and pro-family, all of that. You know, what better place is there going to be to find that? And then, of course, with so many out there, ok, "Lord, this is a pretty good place. Do you have someone for me here?" And, what, a week or two into my senior year, her freshman year, I see her across the hallway...and now, this is the God's honest truth, ok? I saw her across the hallway, did not know her name, and I was sitting at a table eating lunch and I said, "Do you see that girl over there? She's going to be my wife." Didn't know her, who she was at all; just saw her. And the girl sitting there was in her dorm and later that afternoon told her what I had said.

Cobb: (32:50) Uh oh [*laughter*].

Guetterman: (32:51) [*laughter*] Yeah, uh oh, exactly. And, you know, two, three, four others heard it and, and I said, you know, you do the kid thing, I sent a cheerleader friend of mine, "Go find out what her name is for me." I'm this big baseball player, you know, senior stud on the campus and all this. Well she comes back and tells me her name and it's Drew Robinson. I said, "Drew Guetterman. Hey, that sounds pretty good."

Walters: (33:20) [*laughter*]

Cobb: [*laughter*]

Guetterman: (33:22) Ok, so, later on that girl tells her and she says, first, first thought, you know, what do you think, "Oh yeah, some jock thinks he can have anybody he wants." Well, ok, so I start, I see her at church and I go and sit by her, introduce myself and just, just start...I don't

know that she knows this until months later, so I have no idea that she already knows who I am and...

Walters: (33:55) What you've said.

Guetterman: (33:56) Yeah, what I've said, so, but she doesn't say or do anything to let me know that she's aware of that; she's very, very sharp, ok? So I start, we start dating, ok? I start having...and the, and the thought came to me, and I know it was the Lord, He said, "The relationship is supposed to be what, what, how can I improve her by being in a relationship with her," and it was like a selfless thought because guys don't think that. So I know it wasn't from me; that was from the Lord. How can I, how can I help her be a better person? And that freed me up in the relationship so that when, when what normally would be jealousy type scenarios that might pop up didn't bother me. Like other guys wanting to take her out, I said, "Sure." In fact, they asked me, "Hey, can I take her out?" I said, "Sure, we're just dating, you know, we're not serious or anything right now." But they wouldn't. I don't know if they were afraid of me or what but, but they, for to come up and ask me if they could do that was really strange to me for somebody else to ask that. But one time, she brought out an old picture, she brought out a picture an old boyfriend sent her in the mail and I said, "I got to take a walk," because I was that, that, you know, was rising up in me. I said, "I got to take a walk," and I walked around the circle three times. I said, "Lord, help me with this approach that you've given me. Help me recommit to this." And that was the only time that I really had any struggle with that. But my intent was to help her be a better person. And so I used that when I was dating other people that fall as well and I would, I told this one girl one time, I said, "You know what? You got too much makeup on." And I had the freedom to say that because of, I didn't have any preconditions of wanting her to like me or, I said, "You know what? God gave you beauty. Don't cover it up; accent it."

And I was able to do that with other girls that, that I'm sure nobody else would have ever told them.

Cobb: (36:34) Right.

Guetterman: (36:35) So that was an interesting approach that God gave me but it was so freeing that I could even speak into her life when I thought she was being rude or not being what she, what she ought to be, so.

Cobb: (36:51) Did you get engaged when you were here before you'd left?

Guetterman: (36:55) Yep, yep. Took her up to Peaks of Otter and she thought it was going to be, she thought it was going to be that day that we would go out and do that. Then I invited her sisters to go with us and it threw her off because she said, "Surely he would not invite them to go and do this thing." But I did on, kind of on purpose for them, to throw her off because she was pretty sharp girl.

Cobb: (37:20) Right. Yeah, yeah.

Guetterman: (37:22) And then it, it happened up on the Peaks of Otter where you could see for, you know, for miles like you can, so um...but yeah, I did that in front of her sisters, so they thought that was pretty cool.

Cobb: (37:37) One of the, you talked about what life was like here early on. Both Lowell and I work in the library and a lot of times we that people, in between classes, will come to the library as sort of a place to hang out while they're waiting for another class to begin. Where, what did students do in between classes back when you were here? Where were they able to go?

Guetterman: (38:00) Back to the room, dorm room. There wasn't, you know, they had, in the dorms that were available, they had these common areas and they would, they would gather there, socialize there or they would get in their car and go off-campus.

Cobb: (38:17) What was off-campus that you could actually get to at that time?

Guetterman: (38:21) Let's see, I don't think the mall was there yet.

Walters: (38:24) Was the Fort Theater Drive-in still working or they were off, not allowed?

Guetterman: (38:28) They were off limits. Yeah, you couldn't go to the drive-in.

Walters: (38:30) Didn't the Pantanas have some sort of deal over there though where they showed movies that you could watch or something? You don't remember?

Guetterman: (38:36) No, not at that time. There wasn't a whole lot to do and they would bring movies on campus. They did everything that they, you know, they thought they could to, to deter us from going off-campus, you know, uh...

Cobb: (38:57) Was there, we remember the guard shack when we were here...

Guetterman: (39:00) Yeah.

Cobb: (39:01) to get on and off campus. Was that something that was in existence when you were a student?

Guetterman: (39:05) Oh yeah, oh yeah. And I, I didn't date a whole lot before my senior year, just for whatever reason, took a, took a few girls out every once in a while. Didn't have enough money, that's probably the big reason. But when I went to get dating permission, which they had to get dating permission from Dean Emerick at the time...

Cobb: (39:30) Ok.

Guetterman: (39:31) he gave me single dating permission and here I'm dating a freshman, which was basically unheard of. If you were a freshman or sophomore, I believe, you had to double date.

Cobb: (39:44) Ok.

Guetterman: (39:45) If you were seniors you could single date, if you were both seniors. And junior, senior I'm not sure where the mix was there but freshman could never single date. Well, he gave me single dating permission every time I asked, which I thought was pretty amazing. Apparently I had established my, my character and, and trustworthiness by that point.

Cobb: (40:12) Did he become sort of a popular person on campus for you?

Guetterman: (40:15) Dean Emerick? Oh, absolutely, absolutely. I saw him quite often
[laughter].

Cobb: (40:19) [laughter] Do you have any other teachers that you liked or...I know Eddie Dobson, I think, was supposed to be a guy that was involved in student life on campus. Were you more interactive with the teachers that stood out or was there any of their staff or administrators that sort of stuck out to you from back then?

Guetterman: (40:40) Not too much on a personal level. Dr. Allison, who was the director of theater and King's Players and, I believe he's still here, right?

Walters: (40:55) Yeah, he's in communications.

Cobb: Dr. Allison

Guetterman: (40:56) Yeah, he, I remember one year, I don't even remember what year it was, I was taking theater, drama, and in a play and he, he was at one of our ballgames. He said, "Hey, hey Lee, you hit a homerun, I'll give you an A."

Cobb: (41:13) [laughter]

Guetterman: (41:15) Thinking, alright, there's evidence right there, right? Well, I hit a homerun that day, my only one of the year, that day and I said, "Ok Doc. I'll be looking for that A."

Walters: (41:26) [laughter]

Cobb: [*laughter*]

Guetterman: (41:27) And sure enough at the end of the semester I got that A. But, you know, acting with him was a lot of fun with, with the plays and everything. I didn't do a whole lot of that but um...a Dr., let's see...

Cobb: (41:43) Was Sumner Wemp, was he...

Guetterman: (41:44) Sumner Wemp, oh yeah, he was very much in charge of spiritual life, chapels. Every time he got up there, "Wemp glory," [*laughter*].

Cobb: (41:56) Glory, yep.

Guetterman: (41:59) So he was a favorite of a lot of people. Some people said, "Man, I cannot stand that guy. He's just too spiritual." But he was great. We all, we all loved him and still do.

Walters: (42:16) You were here during the days when Dr. Falwell was pushing towards the Reagan Election and such. Did that affect anything with the team; that you knew that the eyes of certain people were on the institution that normally wouldn't be?

Guetterman: (42:33) No, I don't think so.

Walters: (42:35) No, didn't affect you at all? Ok.

Guetterman: (42:36) No. The one, the beautiful thing about sports is when you're on the field and involved in that, it's like it's a little world; that very little actually touches it. I know when, when they would, they've had, you know, dignitaries come and then they have all the security and all that stuff and then you hear some, some feedback of, "Oh, I can't believe they're having him," and stuff like that but um...not in, not in that sports world. It seems to just not touch it. Dr. Falwell, Dr. Falwell used to come to a lot of our games and he would sit on our bench, ok, and I don't know if, how much you've been around him in those, in a non-formal atmosphere, but you learn to sit like this...

Cobb: (43:36) Now, you've got your arms crossed...

Guetterman: (43:37) Yeah, because if he sat down next to you, invariably he would go, wham, and hit you on the chest...

Cobb: (43:36) Ok.

Guetterman: (43:37) and it didn't just hurt, it doubled you over...

Cobb: (43:50) Oh.

Guetterman: (43:51) and so you just learn to sit right here just, kind of, just, "Hi Doc, how are ya?" you know, so uh...but he was great. Of course he was a great ballplayer himself in college and I think he, if I remember right, he was drafted by Cincinnati...

Cobb: (44:08) I don't know.

Guetterman: (44:09) or looked at by Cincinnati.

Walters: (44:10) Yeah, he was looked at. We got that from some other interviews.

Guetterman: (44:13) Yeah.

Walters: (44:14) Yeah.

Guetterman: (44:15) He was a very good baseball player.

Walters: (44:16) Did he ever offer you any personal tips?

Guetterman: (44:18) No, he didn't.

Walters: (44:20) That's what Sid said, he didn't offer any...

Guetterman: (44:22) No, he just, he sat and enjoyed the game and picked on us all the time
[laughter].

Walters: (44:27) [laughter]

Guetterman: (44:28) It was great having him be, show, show an interest like that, you know, taking a personal interest and, of course being a sports fan anyway, I know he enjoyed up until

just a week or two before he passed away. I was up here and we were up in the box that, that looks out over the field there at Worthington field and, and there's still, you know, when the umpire made a bad call there'd be banging on the glass...

Cobb: (44:58) [*laughter*]

Walters: [*laughter*]

Guetterman: (44:59) and getting into it and he was, he was always that way so, always enjoyed it.

Cobb: (45:05) I hear a story that uh...how did Dr. Falwell make his entrance to the games? I'm, I'm sort of curious if you give sort of the same story that Sid Bream gave on a, on an interview how Dr. Falwell would arrive in his Suburban. Do you have any memory of how that happened?

Guetterman: (45:23) Not really, um...

Cobb: (45:25) Because I think Sid said that he sort of would drive down into the middle of the field...

Guetterman: (45:28) [*laughter*]

Cobb: (45:29) sort of...

Walters: (45:30) That may have been one particular game.

Guetterman: (45:32) Yeah that may have.

Cobb: (45:33) Ok.

Guetterman: (45:34) I didn't, I don't remember that one. He, Sid probably, I'm sure he does but I don't remember that one.

Walters: (45:40) Well, Sid made it sound like he came and parked because he was promised a real field to play on and so, do you remember the transition then to Worthington, well, what's now Worthington Field, coming from Miller Park to Worthington Field? How did that...

Cobb: (45:56) Right, because Al Worthington was saying when you guys were playing over at Miller Park he was starting to get worried about people in the streets with...

Walters: (46:01) Right.

Cobb: (46:02) you guys hitting homeruns out.

Walters: (46:03) Right.

Guetterman: (46:04) Well, Miller Park was our practice field...

Cobb: (46:07) Ok.

Guetterman: (46:08) and it was only two hundred feet fence which is Little League, twelve year olds. That's what they use for their, their field. And that was our practice field and across the street was a three or four story business building and we would hit it regularly; Sid and I would hit it. And, but he hit, he broke the window in the third story one day with, just, in batting practice and, of course, the school got to pay for that...

Cobb: (46:35) Sure.

Guetterman: (46:36) but they got tired of us doing that and our field that we played on is City Stadium, which is a nice park. And uh...that's my sophomore year, no, my junior year we first had our field. That would have been '80, spring of '80, I think. I have to check that, when we had our, our field on campus, which later became Worthington Field, but we, we were going to Florida, and we were so excited coming back but it had rained and they didn't do work on the field and we had a game scheduled the next day and I remember helicopters and gasoline trying to blow it dry...

Cobb: (47:25) Wow.

Guetterman: (47:26) to get it ready. They were there almost all night trying to get that field ready...

Cobb: (47:31) Wow.

Guetterman: (47:32) to have our first game on. But it was Coach Worthington who really got after him and said, "Look, you said this was going to be ready. You better have it ready." Because he could get, he could really get after you if you didn't do...

Walters: (47:45) Well, Sid said that they brought lights in for that. They must have been portable lights because...

Guetterman: (47:49) Oh yeah, to work on it...

Walters: (47:50) Yeah.

Guetterman: (47:51) yeah.

Walters: (47:52) Ok.

Guetterman: (47:53) Oh yeah, they did, they pulled out every stock to get that field ready.

Cobb: (47:58) What's the stories you can tell us about life as a ballplayer? Every, every team has its personalities, has its, its different feel, different flavor. I mean, were you picked on at all for being from San Diego? Did you have people who were very active and energetic and talked a lot? What was the, what was the flavor, what was the personality of your teams when you played?

Guetterman: (48:20) Here at Liberty?

Cobb: (48:21) Yeah.

Guetterman: (48:22) It's interesting, my freshman year, [*clears throat*] we, we played and, at one point, we could have played everybody on the infield from California, which was, I, yeah, I

was like, crazy, it may have been my sophomore year that was true. We could have played everybody from California and um...no, that was my freshman year because we had a third baseman from L.A. area. When Rich, if Richard didn't play shortstop...

Cobb: (48:58) Who's Richard?

Guetterman: (48:59) Richard, Richard DeWitt...

Cobb: (49:00) Ok.

Guetterman: (49:01) he's from Florida. We had another kid that was from California that could have played there. Or when I played first base, we could have a pitcher from California. So at one point, we could have fielded, all the way in Virginia, a bunch of guys from California. So it was kind of crazy that way. But the flavor developed my, that, my freshman year with a guy named Henry Quake. He was from Connecticut and he was a magician, ok? He was very outspoken, very loud, very fun kind of guy and we had those guys come through and there were, [clears throat] we were kind of a hodgepodge, you know, no real developed personality yet because we had nineteen freshman on our team, ok, so it was a bunch of young...

Walters: (50:03) And how many are allowed to be on the roster?

Guetterman: (50:05) Well, it was, at that point we were independent so it didn't matter. We, we probably had close to thirty. So we had a bunch of young, young people. So they were trying, we were all trying to find our way, you know, but over the next couple of years, we developed into a really close knit bunch where we would...and Coach Worthington's character really started to infect us. We became, I mean, we became known as a spiritual team because of our, we would, we would gather and sing. There'd be about ten or twelve of us would sing. Of course I couldn't sing very well so I just was real quiet. But we had some guys that could really sing. Sid could sing, Doug Smith, Tom Schwedt, Gary Wagner; those guys could flat sing and,

and they did, they had a quartet that would sing in chapel sometimes. But we were known as a spiritual team.

Walters: (51:22) Sid talked about one time you had a layover waiting on a game, maybe at George Mason or somewhere, and you passed out tracks in D.C. or was it the Smithsonian or something? Maybe that was a year you were already moved on or something, but do you remember doing activities like that?

Guetterman: (51:38) Yeah, we did that all the time. We'd um...Coach Worthington, he'd say, "Hey guys, here's some tracks, you know, you know, there's some people out there. Let's go talk to them." And we would. And we would come back with reports of people getting saved and it was, and that was, that was because of Coach Worthington's influence, obviously. I don't know, do you, were you there last night? He was talking about it again, you know, because that's who he is. He says, "I've got these four great Spanish tracks that I give out to all the Mexicans that are coming into the country because they need Jesus too." And that was just his whole demeanor. One day, one day one of the guys on the bus says, "Coach, you talk about character all the time. What is it?" He thought a second and he goes, "I don't know how to define it but I know when I don't see it."

Walters: (52:35) *[laughter]*

Guetterman: (52:36) Ok, and everybody goes, "Oh," *[laughter]*.

Walters: (52:39) *[laughter]*

Cobb: *[laughter]*

Guetterman: (52:40) So, who, you know, it's like the twenty dollar bill and the banker, you know, you recognize the real deal handling it enough, seeing it enough that when it doesn't, when, when...

Cobb: (52:51) When you see the counterfeiter.

Guetterman: (52:52) When you see a counterfeit come up, you, it's, you obvious to you. And that's how he is and he's always who that, who he is um...in private, in public; he is who he is.

Cobb: (53:07) How did Al, Mr. Worthington help you not just as a ballplayer then but just as an individual? Can you expand on that anymore than what you've already...?

Guetterman: (53:18) Well, just more of, of that. There's a, [*clears throat*] each person has a, I don't know how to term it other than a tri-persona; it's how he views himself, how others view him, ok, and there's a third one I'm trying to remember, what he thinks others think of him. Well, Coach was, was all three the same person, ok? How I really am, how others perceive me, and who others um...whatever the third one is, I can't think of it right now. But Coach was the same all the time in no matter what scenario he was in, he was Coach. And that taught me, be me, ok, but be a man of character whether I'm with somebody or I'm by myself and, so I'm not portraying something different in front of different crowds or in front of a dignitary or a non-dignitary, you know, be you. Be you God crated you to be. And I think that's an extension of my dad. My dad was always who he was, Coach Worthington was that way and expressed it and voiced that, and he kind of became our surrogate dad away from home. You know, he would get on us when we didn't act right.

Cobb: (54:49) He talked about suspending a player for behavior that he thought was inappropriate during a game.

Guetterman: (54:55) Yeah.

Walters: (54:55) Throwing a bat, he suspended him for...

Guetterman: (54:56) Oh.

Walters: (54:57) what, three games?

Cobb: (54:58) Three games he said.

Guetterman: (55:02) Ok. I don't think it was me [*laughter*].

Cobb: (55:03) [*laughter*]

Walters: [*laughter*] He didn't say.

Cobb: (55:06) He did say to ask you about throwing a bat, no.

Guetterman: (55:08) No, I, I, gee, I did that one time in front of my dad. He was my coach, ok? I took my helmet off and I threw it and he said something and I said, "I don't care," and he said, "Sit down on the bench. You're out of the game," ok, because of my behavior and Coach Worthington was the same way.

Cobb: (55:30) What games do you remember where that was sort of tested where there was a, you know, an umpire didn't give you a fair strike zone or something that was done where you really had to take that Christian character and really try to show what your dad and what Mr. Worthington had tried to put into you?

Guetterman: (55:51) Since then or...?

Cobb: (55:53) Well while you were at Liberty.

Walters: (55:54) While you were...

Guetterman: While I was here?

Walters: (55:55) here. Mr. Worthington told us this morning that, well, he led me to believe at least that he didn't protest a lot in the middle of the game even if he knew the umpire was uh...what did he say, this one pitcher was throwing strike after strike and he kept calling them balls...

Guetterman: (56:10) Yeah.

Walters: (56:11) And he just, he, it sounded like in that particular instance he waited until after the game and had a...

Cobb: (56:16) Have a discussion.

Walters: (56:17) Yeah.

Guetterman: (56:18) Yeah.

Walters: (56:19) Did, how did that affect you as a player to be under that sort of passive but yet concerned management?

Guetterman: (56:27) Well, well, you know, in an immature state you think, "Why isn't he out there defending me right here? A coach is supposed to do that," ok? Well, if you think about it, what's going to happen different? The umpire's going to continue to make the same calls he's going to make and um...he, you're right, he didn't do that very much but there were times that he would pick, he would kind of pick his spots to argue but the way he argued was he'd walk up and he would, he would get right up close to him and he would say something nobody else would hear, ok? So he wouldn't um...

Walters: (57:09) Putting on a performance.

Guetterman: (57:10) embarrass the guy. Yeah, it wasn't a performance. It was a genuine expression of his dissatisfaction of whatever was going on and then he would walk off and it was amazing. He didn't do it very much but when he did it, the demeanor of that umpire changed and I'm like, "What did he tell him?..."

Cobb: (57:30) *[laughter]*

Guetterman: (57:31) "Whatever it was, it worked," ok? But I think it was because he treated him with respect and did it privately and didn't show him up, ok, that the umpire realized, "Ok, maybe I am a little bit off here." And there was one game in North Carolina and I was pitching

and I was freshman and uh...no, I wasn't. Sid was there, so I was a sophomore. I was five and O on the year, I was doing great. Three to three in the bottom of the ninth, guy on third base, two outs; hitter hit a, guy bunted it back to me and I threw the guy out by two, three steps at first base. Well, it, game over because the umpire goes, "Safe," ok, and it was clear, you know, for everybody that the guy was out. Coach Worthington's running across the field and I said, "Coach, what?" He said, he's at me, "Well, what happened?" I said, "I don't know. He was out." So he goes running over there and talks to the umpire because, you know, game's over, what are you going to do? He said, "Why did you make that call?" He said, "Because of what you did three or four innings ago." Really, you know, what are you going to do? You can't do anything, so um...

Walters: (58:56) He told us about that...

Guetterman: (58:57) Did he?

Walters: (58:58) Yeah, yeah and it all correlates so it must be true [*laughter*].

Guetterman: (59:02) Well he's, I could, I couldn't believe it. I'm stunned. I'm standing here stunned; we're going to, we're ready to beat North Carolina, the University of North Carolina. They're in the top twenty-five of college baseball. I don't know how high, but they were up there. And we were playing them; we were beating them, you know. So it was just, it was disheartening when that stuff happens and it does, you know, because of perception of our school, you know? They don't have any business being on the field with, with North Carolina. What are they doing here? And, and we would be treated like that sometimes and that is a character builder because what are you going to do? You can do one of two things; you can get angry or you can learn from it and mature through it. So, you know, sometimes that's how people are.

Walters: (59:58) Did that, while we're on this theme of, you know, how you were treated in college days, how did that play out then when you matured into a Major League ballplayer? Did, did you, have you been able to look back over the years and say, "Hey, you know, wow, this really influenced how I adapted to things as a Yankee," or, you know...?

Guetterman: (1:00:20) There was more, there was more affect of that in the minor leagues.

Walters: (1:00:24) Ok.

Guetterman: (1:00:25) I mean, I remember right out of, right out of college, here I've got all my dress clothes and stuff and I go from college to minor league ball and I get drafted and go wherever they sent me and, at, the year that, my senior year we had, I don't know if you remember the hats we had but they were the striped; it almost looked like a Pirate hat...

Cobb: (1:00:46) Yeah, I was just going to say.

Guetterman: (1:00:47) of old Pirate hat.

Walters: (1:00:48) Like '79 Pirates or is that what you mean?

Guetterman: (1:00:50) It might have been that but it was, it was LBC on it, I mean, it just was not a pretty looking hat at all.

Walters: (1:00:59) We can find it in the yearbooks I'm sure [*laughter*].

Guetterman: (1:01:00) Yeah, oh yeah. It was not a good looking hat, ok? Were' all going, "Oh, I can't believe they designed these hats like this," ok? It was so busy and, and softballish looking. And then you'd have like the University of Arizona, the plain hat with the, with their letter A and, and all these other college teams and I'm joining these guys in the minor leagues in rookie ball and one guy says, "Oh man, I love that hat. I'd love to have two of them." I said, "Yeah." He said, "Yeah, one to take a dump in and the other one to cover it up."

Walters: (1:01:39) [*laughter*]

Guetterman: (1:01:40) And I go, exactly, I go, “Oh.” It just dogged me, you know? Of course he didn’t put it in that vernacular...

Walters: (1:01:47) [*laughter*]

Cobb: Right.

Guetterman: (1:01:48) but, you know. So I’m like, “Oh.” Yeah, we got here Liberty Baptist boy, you know? Well, that kid never made it out of Double-A, you know.

Cobb: (1:01:58) Oh, ok.

Guetterman: (1:01:59) And there I’m, and there I make it and they go, “Well, I don’t know if I had anything to do with it,” but, yeah um...

Cobb: (1:02:10) If we could go back to Liberty baseball real quick, was there a favorite season or a favorite team that you had? You talked about the magician you said was on the one team, I don’t know was, did you guys, did baseball players, were you all in the same dorm?

Guetterman: (1:02:28) Yeah, yeah. After the first, after the first year they started, they created an athletic dorm...

Cobb: (1:02:33) Ok.

Guetterman: (1:02:34) and they put us all, all the baseball players in the same dorm.

Cobb: (1:02:37) So all the personalities got along?

Guetterman: (1:02:38) Oh yeah, we did, we really did. Became, came to love each other and the guys that I really cherish are the guys that I played with here. Of all the years I played minor league and, and big league ball, the guys that I stay in contact with and that I look forward to getting together with are these guys. Couple of years ago we came up for the alumni game and Sid and Bruce Secrest and Rich DeWitt and Mike Coursely and, and I know there’s some more, Tom DeWitt, we all went to Chick Fil-A down here and we sat in there for an hour and a half,

two hours just telling stories. And all our wives are sitting at other tables just watching us just enjoy each other's company. Telling the stories of when we were together and stuff, we'd all laugh, you know, and have a great time. But every time, like last night, at the banquet, several of them came up; Rich and Tom Dewitt were there, Mike and Clint Horsley, some others were expected, Sid Bream was there. Just and we, and we just love being together. I don't know what it is. The camaraderie is just, it was so much better than any minor league or major league or group. I guess my best year that I really enjoyed the most was my junior year. Sid was a sophomore, and I think that was our best year and that was my best personal year. I went eleven and one, let's see, ten and one, something like, ten and five, I forget. I forget what my record was that year; ten and one I think.

Cobb: (1:04:27) Did you beat a certain team that you'd wanted to beat that year also or did you play the playoff?

Guetterman: (1:04:33) We didn't go to the playoffs that year. We didn't do any of that until my senior year.

Cobb: (1:04:37) So it was personal goals that were met?

Guetterman: (1:04:38) Yeah, yeah. And I did the best and I thought well, I might be drafted this year; a junior, had a very good year, I've proved I can pitch against anybody. I beat Virginia Tech twice...

Cobb: (1:04:50) Oh, ok. That's saying something [*laughter*]

Guetterman: (1:04:52) I beat them, well I beat them six out of seven times, or six out of eight times and one loss because I pitched against them every year...

Cobb: (1:04:57) Ok.

Guetterman: (1:04:58) and usually twice. They mentioned it last night, that the coach, after I left, he said, well after my junior year they wouldn't play us unless it was back to back because they didn't want to see every time that we played them [*laughter*]...

Walters: (1:05:16) [*laughter*]

Guetterman: (1:05:17) because I beat them. Well, except one time, I had a mind that just got me.

Walters: (1:05:23) [*laughter*]

Guetterman: (1:05:24) Because we would, we really, because they were the best in the state except for us, typically. We play, we'd play the University of Virginia, James Madison, let's see, George Mason...

Cobb: (1:05:38) Did you have one that was sort of a traditional rival?

Guetterman: (1:05:41) Virginia Tech.

Cobb: (1:05:42) Virginia Tech.

Guetterman: (1:05:43) Yeah.

Cobb: (1:05:44) But you took care of them.

Guetterman: (1:05:45) Yeah...

Walters: (1:05:46) [*laughter*]

Guetterman: (1:05:47) most of the time.

Walters: (1:05:48) At least when he was there.

Cobb: When he was there [*laughter*]

Guetterman: (1:05:49) Yeah, when I was here we took care of them and when, the biggest game, I guess, of my college career was when they game to City Stadium and they had about five or six thousand people show up...

Cobb: (1:06:00) They've always traveled, yeah.

Guetterman: (1:06:01) and this guy named Franklin Stubbs, who became a big leaguer, was leading the nation in homeruns at that time and it was the first time we played them that year and so there was, you know, the big deal about Guetterman versus Stubbs and all this stuff because I'd beat Virginia Tech and Stubbs was this big homerun king and, and first time up, Franklin [*clears throat*] comes up to the plate and he's left handed hitter, I'm a left handed pitcher. Coach Worthington calls fastball and I'm like, "You sure about that?" I threw a fastball, strike, called another fastball, strike, called another fastball, threw a fastball, he hit a groundball to the second baseman for an out, so I'm like, "Ok." Coach Worthington just showed me this guy was an off-speed hitter, ok, because that's what everybody was trying to get him out with because they, maybe, assumed he could hit the fastball really, really well, which I assumed too. Well, he ended up going one for four on the day and I struck him out twice, ok, he had a base hit. A little, you know, fourteen hopper up the middle; nothing very big, we beat them three to one that day And, so Coach taught a lot about pitching to me threw the experience, not sitting down and saying, "Now, this is the way you do this," but because he called my pitches, he taught me what to look for in hitters and how to approach hitters. So, and he wasn't so much a, a chalkboard kind of guy but an experiential kind of teacher which... and I'd ask him sometimes, I asked him years later, "Coach, how come you never had me pitch around a guy?" He said, "Because I never saw a batter that you couldn't get out." "Oh."

Cobb: (1:08:05) You tell me now [*laughter*]?

Guetterman: (1:08:06) Yeah, yeah, so, because I, I found myself in the minor leagues doing that on occasion. They would, you know, that means walk this guy.

Cobb: (1:08:16) Hold up four fingers.

Guetterman: (1:08:17) Yeah, that means throw him four balls, you know, put him on base.

And I would do that to pitch around certain, you know, to get to the next batter but not, not in college and that, that, and because it was new to me in the minor leagues, I went back and I asked him and that's what he told me. "Oh, ok."

Walters: (1:08:41) Well, tell us about travel and lodging as a team in those days. Was it, was it bare bones travel and lodging? How did that work back in those days for Liberty?

Cobb: (1:08:54) Did you get all those buses that would pass Grace, your Grace Street Old Folks Home taking you to games?

Walters: (1:08:59) *[laughter]*

Guetterman: (1:09:00) *[laughter]* No, as a matter of fact, we had Eagles; very nice, very nice buses. Coach Worthington did a very good job of taking very good care of us. We got, what was it, about twelve or fifteen dollars a day meal money, which is pretty good, you know. We never went hungry. He always found good deals in, in like the buffet type places to eat at where we could get all we wanted. And we had some guys who could eat.

Cobb: (1:09:33) *[laughter]*

Guetterman: (1:09:34) We had one kid named John [Jarnigan] who was a catcher...

Cobb: (1:09:37) Ok.

Guetterman: (1:09:38) We would go to Wendy's and he would order three, he would order three triples, milkshakes, large sodas, three fries, and then he'd go, "Coach, could I have a little bit more?" *[laughter]* I'm serious. He was amazing what that man could eat. And he was a skinny kid, you know.

Cobb: (1:10:01) Oh, really?

Guetterman: (1:10:02) Yeah, he'd just bard it all up. But he took very good care of us. Hotels were, were not extravagant but they were comfortable. And I remember one time we came out, came out of a hotel and he said, "Gentlemen, we will not be staying here any longer, ever again," because they just didn't do a good job of taking care of us. So he, he did an excellent job of that; in fact, he did better than what we got when we got into the minor leagues...

Walters: (1:10:31) Oh, wow.

Guetterman: (1:10:32) Yes.

Cobb: (1:10:34) So was he the coach for you the whole time you were here?

Guetterman: (1:10:36) Yes. He had started the program, what, in '73, I believe.

Cobb: (1:10:43) I think that's when he said he came.

Walters: (1:10:44) I can't remember. He mentioned it yesterday.

Guetterman: (1:10:45) And he was there way past when I left, as a coach.

Walters: (1:10:48) Did you ever play in a championship or playoff games here? Did you, did you have that experience at NAIA or NCAA or...?

Guetterman: (1:11:00) Yeah, yeah. When we first started our program, when I was here, we were playing, basically, a Division I schedule; the Virginia Techs, the University of Virginias, and schools like that that would play us, North Carolina. They wanted to, the school I guess, wanted us to go into some sort of a playoff picture so we actually had to drop our schedule back to go NAIA...

Cobb: (1:11:30) What do you mean by drop? Number of games or the teams you played or...?

Guetterman: (1:11:33) No, well reduce, reduce the quality of our teams...

Cobb: (1:11:35) Oh really, ok.

Guetterman: (1:11:36) that we played. We had to play, we went, so we went NAIA um...was Nation Association of Interscholastic Athletics. It was several, I'd say, several steps down from NCAA Division I at that time. And so our schedule was reduced in competition. We still played some Division I schools but we had to play this NAIA schedule. Then we went to the Districts and swept the Districts no problem; didn't have any competition there. Then we went to Regional up in Pennsylvania and that's where Sid Bream really shined his junior year; hit like six or eight homeruns on the weekend, four in one game. We lost the first game to the region favorite. They had two guys who threw ninety-two, ninety-four miles an hour and, but after that, their pitching really fell off. Well, we lost the first game three to two; I pitched that game. And we came back to win three straight, three or four straight games and we pounded them. We just outscored them to win the region. And then we went to the NAIA Nationals in Lovett, Texas and I pitched the first game out there and we won and we ended up going two and two out there. Placed, I can't remember what we placed that year; it was in the top ten in NAIA Nationals. So that was a lot of fun and it, and it felt like a pretty good accomplishment for our school and for ourselves. And they went back again the next year to the Nationals after Sid and I both left. We both got drafted and they ended up going back to the Nationals the next year. So it was a good testament that that program was, you know, becoming...

Cobb: (1:13:50) Pretty solid.

Guetterman: (1:13:51) very, very solid, yes.

Walters: (1:13:58) Well, we covered some about your professors and spiritual leaders here at Liberty and we talked a little bit about Dr. Falwell. Tell us about...how did Liberty interface then with Major League Baseball and the scouts? Tell us about how you evolved into, you know...I believe Sid talked about he knew there were scouts out there looking but you just didn't

let that get to you, you didn't let that excite you. Tell us about that experience of transitioning into a hopeful Major League Baseball player and how that worked and such at that time.

Guetterman: (1:14:36) Well, there was, I know there were guys coming to watch Sid and, and myself. I know they had, there were some the year before, my junior year. And you just, yeah, you can't let any of that bother you. They want to see you perform. I had one scout come up to me after a game at Highpoint, North Carolina. In this game I hit three homeruns; I went three for four, hit three homeruns. Drove in, you know, five or six runs. I pitched but I didn't pitch very well. I gave up like six or seven runs that day, I mean, we won but I hit better than I pitched that day and the scout come up afterwards and he says, "Do you want to play professional baseball?" And my first thought was, "What a dumb question."

Cobb: (1:15:21) [*laughter*] Of course.

Guetterman: (1:15:22) "Of course I want to play professional baseball. Why do you think I'm doing this?" But I didn't say that, that was my thought but I said, "Yes sir, I do want to play professional baseball." And that was near the end of the season and then a few weeks later was the draft and I got a call and Seattle had drafted me in the fourth round. But that was the only guy that really ever talked to me. And that was the only question he ever asked. That was it; the one question, "Do you want to play?"

Cobb: (1:15:56) Now, did he, they draft you as a pitcher?

Guetterman: (15:58) Yeah, in the, in the draft print it came out and said pitcher slash first base.

Cobb: (16:05) Ok.

Guetterman: (16:06) And I go, "Maybe I got a chance to play first."

Walters: (16:07) [*laughter*]

Cobb: [*laughter*] But Sid kind of held down first base for a while when you were together?

Guetterman: (1:16:12) Oh yeah. When he came, he came my sophomore year, he was a freshman, he immediately took control of that spot and was...

Walters: (1:16:20) For a while I think he was, he said he was a left handed third basemen just like you was a left handed...

Guetterman: (1:16:26) Shortstop?

Walters: (1:16:27) shortstop [chuckle] so...

Guetterman: (1:16:28) Yeah, well, because he's got such a strong arm, again, [Goo] had a strong arm so you put him where you need him. It was funny, there was a guy named Mark Demise who came from Arizona, I think he played at junior college out there, and became our third baseman. Again, my, my sophomore or junior year, he says, "Coach, I just want to apologize for letting you down. I know I'm your only third baseman." And the Coach says, "Mark, one, two...I see eight third basemen here." [laughter] He kind of blew him out of the water with that but, yeah, Sid played, had played third here one or two games just because of, of, you know, a need...

Cobb: (1:17:17) Sure.

Guetterman: (1:17:18) that came up.

Cobb: (1:17:19) One of those seventeen inning games that everyone's getting moved around or...?

Guetterman: (1:17:22) Yeah, yeah, that kind of thing. But Sid took over first base, averaged over .400 here his three years um...you know, I heard, I heard people saying, "They want you to hit more homeruns," and things like that. This guy was, he was blistering the ball...

Cobb: (1:17:39) Yeah.

Guetterman: (1:17:40) Line drive kind of hitter; always was a line drive kind of hitter. And in his senior year I think he hit about nineteen homeruns, or no, his junior year, my senior year. He hit nineteen homeruns. That year I think I hit ten or eleven. So we had a pretty good offense going...

Cobb: (1:17:56) Sure.

Guetterman: (1:17:57) that year.

Walters: (1:17:58) Did you get to pitch against him then in the pros?

Guetterman: (1:17:59) I did.

Walters: (1:18:00) How did that feel?

Guetterman: (1:18:01) That was awesome [*laughter*].

Walters: (1:18:02) [*laughter*]

Cobb: [*laughter*]

Guetterman: (1:18:03) It really was.

Walters: (1:18:04) What'd you pitch him? Do you remember?

Guetterman: (1:18:05) Oh, yeah, absolutely I do.

Walters: (1:18:07) [*laughter*] And what'd he do? Let's hear it.

Cobb: (1:18:08) You didn't pitch him high and tight or anything, did you?

Walters: (1:18:09) Let's hear the circumstance.

Guetterman: (1:18:10) Well, the first time I pitched against him, pitched against him, because he was National League...

Cobb: (1:18:14) Right.

Guetterman: (1:18:15) with the Dodgers and I was American League, I was in triple-A...

Cobb: (1:18:19) Ok.

Guetterman: (1:18:22) and he had come down and he was on injury rehab. And I, so I get up there and I'm just about to laugh, you know...

Cobb: (1:18:27) [*laughter*]

Guetterman: (1:18:28) trying to keep, trying to hide it, you know. And here he is, first pitch I threw him was fastball inner half and he turned on it and hit a bullet right to my first baseman and I just went, “[*exhales*],” just a sigh of relief, you know. Just because I did not expect him to do that with that pitch on the first pitch. So I got him out there, I said, “I got him out. He just, it just worked out.” The second, let's see, let's see, I'm trying to if I face him, where I faced him again before...I faced him in the big leagues when I was with, when I was with the Mets and he was with the Braves. And they, they were in New York and I came in relief and I threw him a sinker down and in and he hit a two hopper back to me which, you know, he was out with that. But I, I...trying to remember, I think that's the only two times I...

Cobb: (1:19:31) O for two against you, huh?

Walters: So you won against him, yeah.

Guetterman: (1:19:32) Yeah.

Walters: (1:19:33) We should have brought that up to Sid.

Guetterman: (1:19:34) [*laughter*] So that was, that was fun to face him, to face somebody that I played with in college, that was a lot of fun.

Cobb: (1:19:45) Well, you're transition to the minors...as a little bit of background, when did, when were you married again? Were you married just out of college?

Guetterman: (1:19:52) We got married in '82 in July is my second year, actually my third pro season.

Cobb: (1:20:03) Ok, so you were already...

Walters: (1:20:04) Well, she was just a freshman when he was a senior.

Cobb: (1:20:06) Ok.

Guetterman: Yeah.

Walters: (1:20:07) She finished out here.

Cobb: (1:20:08) Right.

Guetterman: (1:20:09) Yeah.

Cobb: Ok.

Walters: Were you playing...

Guetterman: (1:20:10) Well actually...

Walters: minor league ball when you proposed or were you still a student?

Guetterman: (1:20:12) We were, we were in school...

Walters: (1:20:14) Ok.

Cobb: (1:20:15) Right, you were a senior when you got engaged I think you said.

Guetterman: (1:20:17) Yeah.

Cobb: (1:20:18) Just trying to think what...did she get married knowing what the potential life of a baseball player was going to be like or...?

Guetterman: (1:20:29) I don't think she had any idea. I mean, the question that I asked her as far as, you know, you have a preliminary question in your mind about, would this girl really want to marry me? Mine was, will you go to California with me, the furthest place on the continent from where we were? She said, "Sure," you know, that was nothing to her.

Walters: (1:20:53) What was her background? Was she...and how did...we asked Sid this. I think what Mike and I are trying to get here with this is, you know, if you could tell us her background, what you're willing to, what she'd be comfortable with being on record, what was

her background and how does someone transition into, through the, through the fact that you're traveling all the time and, and how does she grow with you into Major League ball and potentially being in the limelight once in a while? Tell us about that for her and...

Cobb: (1:21:23) Some of the praise that's given to the, to the wife that's at home, to the mother that's at home to be able to keep the family together.

Guetterman: (1:21:29) Yeah. She has a lot of wisdom, a lot of wisdom. She grew up in Lenoir City, Tennessee. Her dad and mom were saved later, after their first two kids were born. They have five girls and she was the middle girl. And that, and when they, they were kids, they wouldn't be, their parents became missionaries to Trinidad Tobago Islands, ok, way down there. And so they took the whole family down there and were ministering to those folks. At some point, her dad saw that the local boys were getting sweet on her, ok, so they, they said, "Well, I don't think I want her to be marrying some of, you know, one of these guys and staying here and all this stuff." So they shipped her back to the States, back to Springfield, Tennessee to live with her sister and so, and then, at one point, with a friend. So she was away from her family for over a year and it was difficult for her and at that point in her life, her spiritual life, she became, she understood who God Abba Father is. So she, He became her Abba Father spiritually and developed a real sense of deep spiritual relationship with Him at that point and then, we're talking about a fourteen, fifteen year old girl. So it difficult time in her life. And then, so her travels didn't bother at all when she knew that she was going to be marrying this guy who's going to be traveling around the country trying to make it to the big leagues. Didn't bother her a bit to go to California or wherever; she had already been out of the country for years.

Cobb: (1:23:33) Yeah.

Guetterman: (1:23:34) So nothing to her that wasn't, that was totally a minor deal since the fact that, you know, her relationship with me and then keeping that together as we, as we developed a family, she started homeschooling our children. And so you see a lot of these families in spring training that the wife and the kids are staying back at their home because their kids are in public or fulltime Christian school but yet their husbands are out for some February, March, April, May and even into June in some parts of the country apart. They might see them on the weekend every three or four weeks. You know, it kind of breaks up the family a little bit. It's very difficult on the family unit. Well, Drew decided, "I'm going to home school our children so we can stay together wherever we're at," and that's what she did. Keeping our family unit intact, together. In fact, she did homeschooling when I would go to the park at one or two o'clock, get their schooling done and then they would come to the park in the sixth, seventh inning, ok, that was our routine. And if I started, she would come for that start but then maybe not come for two or three other games during the rotation. Or she would come late in the game and then come home with us, you know, come home with me. So she worked out, in our Christian, our vacation like our summer, the summer vacation for school was from October to January so that we could spend more time together like, like most folks do in the summer time when they have school off during regular school. So she just was flexible enough...

Walters: (1:25:31) Sure.

Guetterman: (1:25:32) to make those arrangements and it was really neat how she orchestrated all of that. She's got a shelf on her, on our bookcase at home, it's about that wide, it's all about home educating, taking care of our family at home, even some, a lot of nutritional stuff. Just, that was her investment in our...

Walters: (1:25:53) Did her degree happen to be in education here? Or did she just adapt to that, something...

Guetterman: (1:25:57) No, no, she never did finish her degree.

Walters: (1:26:01) Oh, ok.

Guetterman: (1:26:02) We never, we didn't, almost got to that point. We got married after her sophomore year and, and off we went. So traveling the country, I played ball in Bellingham, Washington, Bakersfield, California, Chattanooga, Tennessee um...

Cobb: (1:26:21) These are all minor leagues?

Guetterman: (1:26:22) These are all minor leagues locations. Calgary, Canada, Tacoma, Washington, Las Vegas, Nevada, uh...what's the, uh...Louisville, Kentucky. These are all minor league cities that I played in. And, of course, the Major League teams we've already talked about.

Cobb: (1:26:48) We talked about what, Seattle...

Guetterman: (1:26:50) Seattle, both New York teams, and St. Louis. So she was very flexible in the and just could adjust to it better than I've seen anybody. We would play winter ball, ok, down in the Dominican Republic and in Venezuela. Venezuela was the first time I had ever been out of the country. Man, I was in, I was in shock, I'm like, I'm wide-eyed and I'm like, nervous about everything going on around me. And she's just, she's running all over town in Caracas, Venezuela with her friend just going wherever. In a, in a foreign country. She had been, it's like she had been there before, you know, it wasn't any big deal to her.

Walters: (1:27:31) Of course she was in some foreign...

Guetterman: (1:27:33) Yeah.

Walters: (1:27:34) islands there, so.

Guetterman: (1:27:35) Yeah.

Cobb: (1:27:36) Now how many kids do you have?

Guetterman: (1:27:37) We have four.

Cobb: (1:27:38) Were they, did they come when you were in the minor league, when you were in Majors, a little bit of both?

Guetterman: (1:27:44) We had our first child, Alicia, when I just finished 1987 in Seattle, um...

Cobb: (1:27:52) So you were in pro-ball then?

Guetterman: (1:27:53) Yeah, big leagues.

Cobb: (1:27:54) Big leagues, ok.

Guetterman: (1:27:55) Yeah, we had, we were going to wait about three or four years before we had children just to get ourselves used to each other...

Cobb: (1:28:05) Sure.

Guetterman: (1:28:06) and what, you know, our lifestyle and all of that. And then it took another year or so before we had our first daughter and she was born in Seattle. And then my son, my first son was born in Tennessee in December three years, three years later. And then our second daughter was born in Seattle five and a half years later. And then my second son was born in Tennessee five years after that.

Cobb: (1:28:43) And what's the Tennessee connection?

Guetterman: (1:28:45) It's where we live.

Cobb: (1:28:46) It's where you live. Tennessee is home then, ok.

Guetterman: (1:28:47) Yeah, Tennessee is home.

Walters: (1:28:48) That was always your permanent home...

Guetterman: (1:28:49) Yes.

Walters: (1:28:50) from the minor league days?

Guetterman: (1:28:52) Actually when we get, when we got traded from Seattle to New York, we had just bought a house in Seattle. In September we closed on the house, the day after Alicia was born. They had to bring all of the documents to the house because I wasn't leaving. You know, we had just, that night before, had our first child, wore out, up all night; that kind of thing. Signed all of the documents for buying the house. Two months later, got traded to New York. And that's the, in baseball, and maybe in all sports, that if you buy a house, be prepared, you're going to be traded...

Cobb: (1:29:31) Yeah.

Guetterman: (1:29:32) in a city where you're at. And it happened to us. We got traded to the Yankees and then we decided, "Where are we going to spend our winters?" So we decided to go back to Tennessee and set up house there. We've had our house there now for about twenty-two years. So...

Cobb: (1:29:50) I don't think, is there a, one of the, either Seattle or New York or St. Louis that you were most comfortable in or your family was most comfortable in? If you ranked your priorities at which places, either as, either the players, the location, the team, what would be the order that you would, you would give?

Guetterman: (1:30:13) I think first and foremost was the Yankees. *[clears throat]* The, the longevity we had there, we were there five years. The, you get to know people. You get to develop relationships that are, you know, I still know some of the guys that worked there. So, and then, learning how to, if, if my wife could learn how to drive in New York and be good, we're doing good, ok. And she did. She learned how to drive around New York, Manhattan.

And so that's becoming really familiar with an area, it, it was like a second home. And then after that I would have to rate St. Louis even though I was only there half a year. It just seemed like a great baseball community. It was very supportive. And then after that would be Seattle because of the same idea, relationships that we developed with some of the office personnel. And then the area. We just really loved the area of Seattle. In fact, we bought a house there twice thinking we were going to be there and stay there. And then the last one would be the Mets; just not, just, my experience there was just not very good. It was very short and then not a lot of good happened. Not a lot of bad but just not a lot of good.

Cobb: (1:31:46) In New York, if, if I did my history right, it looked like you had one year where you had Billy Martin and Lou Piniella...

Guetterman: (1:31:54) [*chuckle*] Yeah.

Cobb: (1:31:55) as your manager. Not known for being the most soft spoken of...

Guetterman: (1:31:59) [*laughter*]

Walters: (1:32:00) Opposite of Al Worthington maybe?

Cobb: (1:32:02) of people. What was it like, yeah, playing under individuals like Billy Martin and Lou Piniella?

Guetterman: (1:32:10) New York, playing in New York itself is a, I don't know what the word would be, an anomaly to the rest of baseball. It's just different. I was, I felt like when I went from Seattle to New York I went from the minor leagues to the big leagues. We would travel and we'd get in at two, three o'clock in the morning and there'd be two hundred people outside the hotel when we would show up. We had our welcome home dinner in New York was at the Waldorf Astoria.

Cobb: (1:32:46) Now, what's welcome, welcome home dinner?

Guetterman: (1:32:48) A welcome home dinner every spring...

Cobb: (1:32:50) Ok.

Guetterman: (1:32:51) coming from spring training to getting ready to start the season.

Cobb: (1:32:53) Ok.

Guetterman: (1:32:54) Kind of a welcome home getting ready for the new year.

Cobb: (1:32:58) Ok. But you said it would be at the Waldorf Astoria.

Guetterman: (1:33:00) Yes.

Walters: (1:33:01) Wow.

Guetterman: (1:33:01) You know, it's, it's, you know, huge main floor and then it's got all these balconies, you know, of people. And I'm like, "Whoa." I'm just star struck, you know.

Walters: (1:33:12) Just the opposite of your Liberty experience [*laughter*].

Guetterman: (1:33:14) Oh, that, Seattle too. I mean, Seattle didn't have anything like that.

Cobb: (1:33:19) Yeah.

Guetterman: (1:33:20) And I'm like, "Whoa, this is amazing." And then you got, uh...what was his name uh...Howard Cosell...

Cobb: (1:33:29) Oh, ok.

Guetterman: (1:33:30) is your, is your um...

Walters: (1:33:32) MC for the night, or...

Guetterman: (1:33:33) MC guy, ok? And all these big names, ok, they bring out this, this cardinal to do this prayer, right. It's a mock prayer. I mean, he's dogging all of these people and you're like, "What is this?" you know, "This is, is this reality?" And you're talking about, I mean, all these dignitaries welcoming home the Yankees and I'm final, I'm realizing the

storiedness of the Yankee tradition is just bigger than life, it feels like. You got all of these former stars, Mickey Mantle, uh...

Cobb: (1:34:14) Whitey Ford?

Guetterman: (1:34:15) Yeah, all of those guys that um...

Cobb: (1:34:18) Reggie Jackson then? Was he...

Guetterman: (1:34:19) He was, he was uh...he was still playing then I think.

Cobb: (1:34:22) He was still playing then? Ok.

Guetterman: (1:34:23) But he wasn't with us.

Cobb: (1:34:25) Right, right.

Guetterman: (1:34:26) I think he may have been with California at the time.

Cobb: (1:34:29) Ok.

Guetterman: (1:34:32) But it was just amazing, just the difference of being in New York; he mystique of all the history. And, I was...

Cobb: (1:34:41) Now, did you meet Mantle or DiMaggio or...

Guetterman: (1:34:44) Oh yeah, yeah.

Cobb: (1:34:45) Really?

Guetterman: (1:34:46) I had, I have a picture with Joe DiMaggio that he signed for me.

Mickey Mantle would come and help out in spring training. A lot of these old, old guys would do that and it was just great being around them.

Cobb: (1:35:00) Yogi Berra, you get your Yogi...

Guetterman: (1:35:03) You know, he wouldn't come around because he and George had this thing going...

Cobb: (1:35:06) George Steinbrenner?

Guetterman: (1:35:07) Yeah. From way back when, when he played. He said, “I am never coming to New York as long as George is there.” And we never saw him.

Cobb: (1:35:16) Really?

Guetterman: (1:35:17) Yeah. And the two years, there were two years that George was on probation in a, in a big old fight with Dave Winfield, I don’t know if you remember anything about that, but he wasn’t allowed around the ballpark... Yogi Berra showed up.

Cobb: (1:35:32) [*laughter*]

Guetterman: (1:35:33) [*laughter*] So, whatever it was, I don’t know what it was but, we might be able to find out, but he would not, they just had a, they did not like each other.

Cobb: (1:35:44) Now...

Guetterman: (1:35:45) I had Billy Martin, ok...

Cobb: (1:35:46) Ok.

Guetterman: (1:35:47) and then we fall out of first place, ok, and here comes, and he fires him [*snaps fingers*] just like that, you know. There goes George the, George five, you know, because he had been fired and hired so many times. They start calling it Billy one, Billy two, Billy three, that kind of thing. Here comes Lou Piniella, ok, and I’m in the bullpen, alright. I’m doing pretty good. Well, he proceeds to ruin our bullpen. Lou does, just abused it. Just, he just...

Cobb: (1:36:20) By over pitching you guys?

Guetterman: (1:36:21) Over pitching us, pitching us when we shouldn’t be pitching. The starter would be doing fine and he would take him out and use the bullpen and, anyway, we ended up not winning our division, which we should have, because we had a, we had a, what I would consider a modern day murderer’s row.

Cobb: (1:36:36) Who was the murderer’s row? I know Don Mattingly was.

Guetterman: (1:36:39) Don, Ricky Henderson lead off...

Cobb: (1:36:40) Oh wow, ok.

Guetterman: (1:36:41) Willie Randolph played second base, hitting second, Don Mattingly hitting third, ok, then you have Dave Winfield and Jack Clark. Take your pick.

Cobb: (1:36:50) Yeah.

Guetterman: (1:36:51) They're both thirty plus homerun guys, hundred plus RBI guys, both of them, ok. Don Mattingly had over a hundred RBIs and over thirty homeruns years prior. Then you have Mike Pagliarulo who hit thirty-two homeruns the year before and you have Dan Pasco who hit twenty-five homeruns the year before. I'm talking...

Cobb: (1:37:10) Where's the weak spot?

Guetterman: (1:37:12) There wasn't, well, Rafael Santana played shortstop. He was the weak spot.

Cobb: (1:37:18) Batting what, eighth or ninth?

Guetterman: (1:37:19) Ninth...

Cobb: (1:37:20) Ninth, yeah.

Guetterman: (1:37:21) batting ninth and he was the weakest one of them all. But everybody else, oh, it was amazing. We should have scored eight or ten runs a game, ok, and a lot of times we did. The problem was our starting rotation. We gave up that many runs a game a lot of times. But going to that team was just an incredible experience for me. So it was just...and then Lou Piniella, right? Well, in the six years, or five years, four and a half that I was there, I had six different managers. I had twenty-three, ok, there's a twenty-five man roster, twenty-three roster changes, ok. And to understand what that means is, me and Don Mattingly are the only ones left from the 1988 season.

Cobb: (1:38:13) Ok, and what year would that...

Guetterman: (1:38:14) In 1992. I'm talking a Major League roster having that many changes, it's just complete turmoil all the time. You're talking averaging four, five, six roster changes a year.

Cobb: (1:38:31) People constantly looking over their shoulder.

Guetterman: (1:38:33) Oh, all the time. It was, it was nuts. There was a book called *The Bronx Zoo*, it was aptly named, ok. It's just crazy. And it was six different managers, three or four different general managers, and I was wondering why the teams I played for didn't do well. Well, I looked back and I see all of this change. There was nothing to, to pull us together; nothing. We were constantly being ripped apart, constantly.

Cobb: (1:39:04) You didn't unite around, like, hatred of the Red Sox or anything like that?

Guetterman: (1:39:08) *[laughter]* No. You couldn't.

Cobb: (1:39:12) Nobody there to unite with because they were always moving.

Guetterman: (1:39:13) Yeah. Because always, always leaving. So it was, those were difficult times for that organization and I just happened to be there.

Cobb: (1:39:21) There's different pitchers we hear about these days that seem to be great pitchers but then they get to the glare of the New York spotlight...

Guetterman: (1:39:27) Yeah.

Cobb: (1:39:28) and suddenly they don't seem to be as great a pitcher anymore. How did you handle it?

Guetterman: (1:39:32) Well, when I got traded, one of, a friend of mine said, "You'll do well if you do these, this one thing. Don't watch the news or read the paper or listen to the radio."

Cobb: (1:39:48) That's kind of tough *[chuckle]*.

Guetterman: (1:39:50) Well, because of the sports magnifying glass that was there, I mean, they question everything. Everything is questioned. So I didn't read the paper, I didn't watch the news, and I didn't listen to the radio, you know, as far as the sports stuff, and I was fine because if they were dogging me, I was oblivious to it.

Walters: (1:40:11) What was your general approach to the media, I mean, when you got interviewed? Did you get interviewed a lot after a particularly successful outing and things or...

Guetterman: (1:40:20) Yeah...

Walters: (1:40:21) How did you deal with that and learn to cope with that then?

Guetterman: (1:40:25) Well, you just, it just kind of grew on you because there were several media there all the time. We have a timeframe where about forty-five minutes that nobody is allowed in the clubhouse prior to a game. Before that, there's eight to ten media on a regular basis, ok. And if anything is really going on, there could be as many as thirty, ok. During the '89 season, I, starting the year, I started off not giving up any runs, ok, and I was approaching a record mark and, and it was, I looked back on it and I go, well, it was fairly normal I would go out and do my job and get people out and not give up a run and, and then, "Hey, how'd you do today?" that kind of thing, normal stuff. But when the record ended, there was forty or fifty media in my locker. I mean, I mean, I'm talking, this, you know, room is full. They said, you know, "How did it feel while you were going through this thing?" I mean, question after question after question about this because I pitched thirty and two-thirds scoreless innings to start that year. And it, and when you're out there in the game, it's not, it's not a concern. But after it was over, I looked back and I go, "Wow, that was amazing."

Walters: (1:41:51) And is it the media that, that posts you to that, that that's coming? Were you aware of the record...

Guetterman: (1:41:57) No, I wasn't. And they didn't tell me...

Walters: (1:41:58) Yeah.

Guetterman: (1:41:59) "Hey, you're approaching this record. What'd you," you know, "do you think you're going to break it?" None of that was going on. And it was like, "Ok, they're on my side just trying to just watch," and nobody was trying to dog me about it and put pressure on me. It's like, it's the same thing that happens when a guy's throwing a no-hitter, you know, nobody's says anything to him. He's off down on the end of the bench...

Cobb: (1:42:21) Nobody's sitting next to him, yeah.

Guetterman: (1:42:22) Yeah and they're leaving him alone. They players aren't saying anything to him, that kind of thing. But the media can, can make you or break you depending on how you view them too. And I was always just who I was. I responded honestly, you know, fair and they treated me nice, you know, they, I, if they printed something bad about me, I didn't know it, so. And that kind of was my secret to just being successful there and that's where my, most of my success was at, was in New York.

Walters: (1:43:01) As you're dealing with success and seeing all of this and, well, experiencing this, we would be seeing it, how did you, how did you avoid that stereotypical self indulgences like doping and the party scene and as we talked about you wife growing with you, did she have, did she find camaraderie with certain other professional players? Was there anything like that and did you find any other Christian professional ballplayers that you could have some time with buddy to buddy on a Christian plain or anything like that?

Guetterman: (1:43:42) Not really in the minor leagues there wasn't that. And everybody, it's like coming, you know, your first day in class in kindergarten. You remember that far back? Everybody is nervous of everybody else, you know, first day in a new school, same idea. You're

just kind of feeling each other out and that's what the minor leagues felt like early on. But then you, you have a, you circle up and become friends because now you're, you're talking about a common goal that all of you have and that's to get to the big leagues. And you develop, begin to develop your friendships and, and one of the goals I had in playing is just, just stay strong spiritually. And there's times where I was, I felt totally alone because I was. I was by myself because everybody else would go to the bar and get a drink or whatever after the game and I wouldn't ever do that. You know, I was just trying to preserve who God was trying to make me to be and I just wouldn't go there. You know, I knew that if I did, if I started into that and got into that, you know, I could get messed up. So there was a lot of alone, aloneness.

Walters: (1:45:00) How did you deal with slumps? Were you ever tempted to throw something away, so to speak, with your testimony because you were just...

Guetterman: (1:45:08) No...

Walters: (1:45:09) No?

Guetterman: (1:45:10) no, I think the way God made me prevented that, a lot of that. I'm a loyal person. My personality is very loyal. My giftings are such that I'm loyal. So that was really never a...

Walters: (1:45:30) Unwavering in your faith?

Guetterman: (1:45:31) Yeah, it was never really an option and it didn't bother me. I know some people it would, you know, it would really tear at them because they were made differently. But for me it wasn't as much, it never, I never thought it was an issue.

Walters: (1:45:46) Any particular times when you felt like or did call up Coach Worthington or Sid or anybody? Did you maintain relationship with Sid or any of your colleagues like that as you went through the pro years?

Guetterman: (1:45:59) Occasionally we would talk, mostly during the offseason.

Walters: (1:46:03) Ok. To either one, Al or Sid or...

Guetterman: (1:46:06) Yeah. There's another guy that I got in touch with later on in my pro career that we would stay in touch with. But going back to the previous, as we grew in the minor leagues, and grew friendships and things, my testimony started having an effect on others. They would start asking me questions because of my stability and my faith, they would ask me questions. I remember one kid saying, I, I came in after the game and I muttered under my breath, and you could edit this or whatever but, I said, "Damn," because I had had a hard inning, you know, I gave up some runs. And the guy that's sitting next to me goes, "I thought you were a Christian," ok. And that was a point, and this was in A ball, and, and that was the point I realized that every one of them were watching me, listening to me, because of what I stood for. And I realized, "Oh, man." I said, "You know what? I am, but that doesn't mean I'm perfect. And I'm sorry..."

Walters: (1:47:25) Sid had a similar experience.

Guetterman: (1:47:28) Huh?

Walters: (1:47:28) Sim had a Sid...Sid had a similar experience.

Guetterman: (1:47:32) Yeah, and it's a realization and I'm glad it happened early on to me that, hey, people are watching. People are paying attention to what I'm saying, what I'm doing, how I'm living my life. As a result of that interaction with him, a year and a half later he became a Christian. So I count that as a blessing.

Walters: (1:47:58) Sure, sure.

Guetterman: (1:47:59) And, and he later told me that. That had an impact on his life. So I was like, "Wow," you know.

Walters: (1:48:05) Sure.

Guetterman: (1:48:06) And then, I mean, there's, there are some other instances where just my living my life impacted guys that way. So, let's see, where was I going with that? I forget [laughter].

Walters: (1:48:25) Well, we had just been asking you, I had asked you about, you know, how you maintain your, your um...how did you avoid that self indulgences and...

Guetterman: (1:48:34) Oh yeah.

Walters: (1:48:35) such and like that. And doping um...Mike, why don't you ask him the question here about...

Cobb: (1:48:41) Yeah, just, there's, obviously there's the stories about performance enhancing drugs and sometimes that sort of overshadows...it's sort of a two part if I can. Some of the performance enhancing drug stories, some people say, "Well, everyone's been doing something all the way throughout the time of baseball," and then they also say, "Don't let that overshadow what's good about baseball," the people who are doing the good things, the people that do have the charities, the people are trying to, you know, see the kids that are needing help. If you're, if you wouldn't mind could you comment both on the performance enhancing drug side of it and also just sort of remind us from the time...I know you talked about it being a Bronx Zoo but what were the times when you were a ballplayer when you saw something that they did for the society, for the community, where you felt like you were having a positive impact?

Guetterman: (1:49:32) The [clears throat] sports enhancing drug side, I mean, you saw it, I saw it and recognized it in spots and in different places and Oakland and San Francisco was one of those prime places as we all now really realize with um...

Cobb: (1:49:51) Canseco, McGwire, Bonds.

Guetterman: (1:49:53) Yeah, McGwire, Bonds, Canseco, you know, all those guys out there.

And we knew they were doing stuff like that because I played against these guys before and then saw them the next year and going, “Dude, we know what you’re doing.” And some of that comes from pressure, outside pressure to perform.

Cobb: (1:50:17) Even a guy like Andy Pettitte who from all accounts is a pretty solid Christian, who had talked about the temptation that he was faced to recover from an injury...

Guetterman: (1:50:26) Yeah.

Cobb: (1:50:27) to try to do something.

Guetterman: (1:50:28) To get, to get back quicker. There’s that pressure because they get paid a lot of money. One, I, I was injured in New York and I was on the DL for two weeks and the coaches put that pressure on you as well with, “Man, I really wish you could be, you know, be with us and be ready because we really need you,” kind of stuff. And my dad called me and he said, “Son, Dizzy Dean blew his arm out because he had a hurt toe. Don’t,” you know, “don’t take a chance. If it’s hurt, don’t play. Ok?” And I, and I listened well to that because I had pulled some rib cage cartilage and the torso helps generate a lot of, you know, a lot of speed and everything and if that’s not very healthy, you tend to make adjustments with your arm and very easily permanently damage your arm. So instead of continuing try to play, I took the two weeks and got healed properly which allowed me to play, you know, five, six more years instead of potentially injuring myself and ending my career which, they just want you to play now. They’re not concerned about next year...

Cobb: (1:51:54) A year from now, yeah.

Guetterman: (1:51:55) They want you to play now and win for them right now. Why? If you do that and you get hurt, they got somebody else to take your place and then they let you go. So

yeah, there's a lot of pressure on each of those guys as there was each of us and, you know, we're trying to stay there because, well, you know, you can earn a great income, it's something that you've always dreamed of as a kid; to be there. And then you're there and then here's all this pressure to stay there, to do all these extra things, to do better, to be, to stay longer, to do more. I don't know that, there again, my loyalties and my personality allowed me to be more immune to that than say an Andy Pettitte. He didn't need it. He never needed it. But the pressure that was, that's applied causes you to do some things that you normally wouldn't do. Jose, Jose Canseco, he didn't need it. He was strong enough already anyway. He didn't need it. Barry Bonds, didn't need it but it gave him a little extra, ok.

Walters: (1:53:14) Do you think Major League Baseball is more lenient about the doping situation when you compare it to, like, Pete Rose's situation that he got himself into?

Guetterman: (1:53:26) Oh, there were obvious, yeah, obviously a lot more. The thing with Pete Rose is those, those, in front of every professional dugout clubhouse door, anywhere in the country, ok, is the big old non, do not gamble information. I mean, it's this long in small print, ok.

Cobb: (1:53:49) Like, what is that...

Walters: (1:53:50) Three feet high.

Cobb: three feet high?

Guetterman: (1:53:51) Yeah [*chuckle*].

Walters: We aren't on video, three feet high and two feet wide?

Guetterman: (1:53:54) Yeah, so...

Walters: (1:53:55) With print that's about a half-inch?

Guetterman: (1:53:56) Mm hmm.

Walters: (1:53:57) Ok [*laughter*].

Guetterman: (1:53:58) And it's all about not gambling, you know. It's on every clubhouse door. And because it's been ban and been such a big deal for so long, I mean, that's a no brainer. You can't do that, you just can't do that. That's why Johnny or, Johnny, Pete Rose is never be in the Hall of Fame. Even though all those numbers should be...

Cobb: (1:54:24) Right.

Guetterman: (1:54:25) he never will be. So, unless, of course, we change our rules.

Cobb: (1:54:30) Right.

Guetterman: (1:54:31) So, but there are a lot more, less, there's none, there's none of those posters, you know, "If you're caught with steroids, you will be ban for life." There's none of that. So, because of that, there's grace given to them.

Cobb: (1:54:44) What was the batter that you didn't want to face? Was there ever one?

Guetterman: (1:54:48) [*laughter*] Dave Winfield.

Cobb: (1:54:49) Dave Winfield?

Guetterman: (1:54:50) Yeah, he was nine for ten off me.

Cobb: (1:54:53) Oh, really?

Guetterman: (1:54:54) Yeah. I don't know why, but I would pitch to him and every time I pitched to him I'd make a mistake and he wouldn't miss it. I think he hit two homeruns off me and the one out that I got was a groundball back to me. So yeah, Dave Winfield, hands down, was my most dangerous hitter, you know.

Cobb: (1:55:22) What's the pitcher you most or who's the pitcher you most admired? Was there anyone you ever either saw him and said, "I want to pitch like him," or, "I like how his

demeanor is,” or, “I like how,” was there ever a pitcher that you saw that you just liked how he played the game?

Guetterman: (1:55:39) I like the way Greg Maddux has taken and, and maximized what he’s capable of. I threw harder than he did. I had better breaking ball stuff than he did. He had a little bit better movement on his fastball, sinker. He’s smarter than me, ok. He won three hundred plus games. He did it a whole lot longer than I did with less than I had. I mean, there are some others that did that too but he was, he stayed within himself. I mean, he was, to me, the epitome of a pitcher, not just a thrower. So I really enjoyed, I would...and I faced him.

Cobb: (1:56:23) Really?

Guetterman: (1:56:24) Twice, yeah.

Cobb: (1:56:25) You faced him, you mean you pitched against him or you faced...

Guetterman: (1:56:28) No, I faced him. I batted...

Cobb: (1:56:29) Ok, National League. Ok.

Guetterman: (1:56:30) I batted National League. One time was the Met and he struck me out and he, he threw this cutter in on me that just, just surprised me because it made me start to swing because I thought, “This ball is on the inner half.” And all of the sudden it just kept coming at me. And I swung and was trying to get out of that way of it and then the next thing I know, the umpire is calling strike three on the outside corner, so. And then the second time I faced him, I got a hit off of him, it was my only big league hit, in a game that he didn’t want to walk the pitcher. He was winning seven to one in, in St., in, in Atlanta and I was with St. Louis and he didn’t want to walk the pitcher so he threw a three two pitch right down the middle and I got a base hit off of him. But other than that, yeah, he wasn’t, he wasn’t going to walk me so he just let me hit it. Basically, that’s what it felt like; he’s just letting me hit it, so.

Cobb: (1:57:30) There's a lot of discussion these days about instant replay in baseball. Do you think there is anything that needs to be changed in baseball? You're, you're commissioner for a day.

Guetterman: (1:57:37) I'm commissioner for a day?

Cobb: (1:57:40) What do you do as commissioner for a day?

Guetterman: (1:57:43) I get rid of the pseudo-umpire evaluations. The, the thing that I didn't like about the umpires is they created their own strike zone. And so you had to pitch differently depending on who was behind the plate. The same in what your, what your strengths and things were but you'd throw one pitch right here that you'd get a call this day and the next day it wouldn't be called that because the umpire was a different umpire. I would, I would, I would require a truer evaluation of the umpires, not just a, you know, let them go because they got tenure, ok. Not to say I'm going to take your job but look, make an effort. And there were some guys that were really, very good because they cared more. And there were some umpires that said, "You know what, this is my strike zone today and..."

Cobb: (1:58:46) "And I got a golf game."

Guetterman: (1:58:47) Yeah, that kind of stuff, yeah. You know, take your job seriously. All of the sudden, all of them will tell you the do...

Cobb: (1:58:55) Sure.

Guetterman: (1:58:56) but the comments you here in the middle of a game...no. And, and I, I've been on the benefit side of it too. There was a game against, I was with the Cardinals and we were playing the Mets. Bobby Bonilla is the batter. And our catcher, we get, we got strike two on him, it was like one and two, and he gets this far, what, eight, ten inches, twelve inches, off the plate away. And he goes, he, he motions with his glove, "Right here, throw it right here."

And it's about knee high, a little above the knees but it's this far, I mean, a good foot and a half off the plate. It's over in the other batter's box, ok. And I go, "Ok." So I throw it and I'm, I'm real close, right there. The umpire goes, "Strike three!" And I start laughing...

Walters: (1:59:46) [*laughter*]

Guetterman: (1:59:47) I covered up my face and I start, [*laughter*] I was laughing because it was nowhere near a strike. And Bobby Bonilla just starts going nuts. Just, "[*growls*] I can't believe that!" just all kinds of stuff. And I...

Walters: (1:59:58) The catcher knew how he was calling.

Guetterman: (2:00:00) Well, he, I didn't know but the umpire and Bobby Bonilla were having words.

Walters: (2:00:06) Ah, smart.

Guetterman: (2:00:07) [*laughter*]

Cobb: (2:00:08) So who's that smart St. Louis Cardinal catcher?

Guetterman: (2:00:13) Oh, I can't remember his name right now but he just, he went way outside and called him out and just, Bobby was just going nuts going back to the dugout.

Walters: (2:00:22) [*laughter*]

Guetterman: (2:00:23) But that, that stuff happens all the time. It's just personalities, they conflict, so...

Cobb: (2:00:30) Al, Mr. Al Worthington talked about when he was playing that they used to try to steal signals from the scoreboard.

Guetterman: (2:00:37) Yeah.

Cobb: (2:00:38) Now, do you ever hear about anything like that going on when you were playing?

Guetterman: (2:00:42) Oh yeah, yeah.

Cobb: (2:00:44) Really?

Guetterman: (2:00:45) Oh yeah. I don't have any proof or anything but I thought the Twins in '87 were doing that. Because they didn't hardly win on the road but they won almost everything at home.

Walters: (2:00:57) [*laughter*]

Guetterman: (2:00:58) [*laughter*] I have no proof...

Cobb: (2:00:59) Sure, sure, sure.

Guetterman: (2:01:00) but it, it sure appeared that they knew what was coming when it was in their stadium. Because I pitched against them there, I started, and didn't, didn't get out of the second inning and at home I beat them. I pitched seven, eight innings against them and beat them. Same team, you know, different facility. And their whole season went like that. They were horrible on the road but won almost everything at home and you wonder, you know. I've got no proof but you really kind of wonder. And I know that some of that stuff has to go on in, in a lot of places, so.

Cobb: (2:01:37) Sure.

Guetterman: (2:01:38) When, there again, it's pressure to perform, pressure to win, to be successful will cause men to do things that they might not normally, normally do.

Cobb: (2:01:53) Tell me about the 1994 strike in Major League Baseball. Whether, from whatever avenue you want to take, good, bad, ugly, long term effects, short term effects, needed, not, just an opening to let you run with it however you want.

Guetterman: (2:02:10) Ok. I was, I was in triple-A...actually that, beginning of that season I was at home, not playing. Signed with the Padres because they thought the players were going

to strike in July at the all star break. They signed me June 1st, was going to pitch me until I got ready to call me to the big leagues when they thought the strike was going to happen so that their young players would go down and continue to play and not be hindered or hurt by the play stoppage. Well, a lot of teams were trying to do that, prepare for that. Everybody was trying to do that because they were trying to break the baseball union, the player union. Well, when it didn't happen, I ended up going home because I had figured out what they were trying to do. I said, "I've had enough of your games. I'm going home." So I went home. Then I got signed by Seattle to go play triple-A at the beginning of August. And then early in August, it was around the twelfth, I think, that they actually went on strike. Major League players went on strike because the owners were not moving in the negotiations. And I was on the radio, live call in show, handling calls from fans who were, as you can imagine, "I can't believe these guys, you guys are doing this. You guys get paid millions of dollars and you're going on strike. How dare you. I'll never watch another game." The whole, you know, all that. And I'm...

Walters: (2:03:48) Where was this at then? While you were in San Diego?

Guetterman: (2:03:50) I was, no, I was in...

Walters: (2:03:51) When, where were you taking the calls?

Guetterman: (2:03:52) Seattle's triple-A team...

Walters: (2:03:53) Oh, ok.

Guetterman: (2:03:54) in Calgary, Canada...

Walters: (2:03:55) Ok.

Guetterman: (2:03:56) and I was going, "Sir, I understand. I don't like it either." But, you know, just understanding that the owner's are trying to break the, the player's union in this, you know, nor do, you don't hear our side. You don't hear, all you hear is that the players are

making too much money and that the owners are going bankrupt which not as, none of that's true because they're all making money. It's just, ok, this set of books is going to show a loss and this set of books is going to show a profit and, and you get into some of that and you say, "Oh, so that's what they're doing." But they only show you these books where they're showing a loss and, "How can we keep doing this? We can't keep doing this." And, and they're just telling you half the story. The Dodgers are a perfect example of this where the organization um...the Dodgers, the concessions, parking, everything is owned by the Dodgers but are in separate books, ok, and a different company's name so that all the salaries are coming out of this one and they're showing a loss because of what they're paying but they're not showing you what the, where they income is going into another set of books that is owned in another name so, and all of them do that. It's to present to the public, you know, how bad things are. And it's legitimate but it's not the whole story. And so when that happens, yes, it hurts because the perception is it's the players being too greedy and yet they turn around just a few years later and Alex Rodriguez signs a ten year two hundred and fifty-six million dollar contract with Texas and you're going, "You're going broke and you're going to make a contract like that? Something's not connecting here. A good businessman does not do that if he's losing money," ok. But, so they don't see that. The public is not aware or made aware of those things happening. I guarantee you that Texas did not lose a dime on Alex Rodriguez, ok. They made a lot of money signing him. Why? Because of who he was generated even more income than what he signed for a contract with TV, memorabilia, all of that. We would get, every year, thousands and thousands and thousands of dollars for memorabilia that was a shared program that the players would get in sales of merchandise. TV and radio, New York Yankees have over half a billion dollar contract with Madison Square Garden Cable, ok. That was back when I was playing there in 1989, ok.

Their salaries weren't near that. They were making money before they even opened the gates, ok. So it's, it's, you know, what they want to show you and what is reality is two different things. But the perception then becomes, "You rich ballplayers," you know, "how dare you." Hey, if they're willing to pay me that, why wouldn't I take it, you know?

Walters: (2:07:29) Just like selling a house or buying a house.

Guetterman: (2:07:32) Yeah, it's market...

Walters: (2:07:33) Whatever you agree to...

Guetterman: (2:07:34) market value. If you agree to this contract and I agree to this contract, whose, why, why should I be concerned if their happy about it or not.

Walters: (2:07:45) So, did the strike accomplish what, what you had hoped for? You the players or...

Guetterman: (2:07:51) Well, I think which...

Walters: (2:07:52) And what were the long term effects of it from your perception?

Guetterman: (2:07:55) The, next, the next spring, '95, ok, we come into spring training. We're still on strike, ok. The timing of our strike was pretty good from the player's perspective because the season was ended. Everybody got most of their salary so through the winter they were going to be fine, ok. For those who were young and, and needed a little bit to carry them through the winter, they were fine. And so the next spring we come in and it's still on strike. There's no big leaguers in camp. I'm in the minor leagues still, ok. This is an interesting perspective. We get general managers asking us veteran guys who are in the minor leagues, Jim Beattie was one that, who I played with in Seattle was now the general manager, this is second time around I'm with Seattle, asked me, he said, he called me and goes, "I got to ask you. I already know but I got to ask. Would you be willing to cross the line?" I said, "Jim, before you

even make an offer, the answer is no.” He said, “I, I thought so but I just, you know, I’m just required to ask.” And, and that’s what they would try to do to get and entice, they would give bonuses and all of these things. And a lot of minor league guys who thought maybe this is their only shot tried it. Well, the spring training games were a disaster because these minor league guys couldn’t play very well, ok. They could not compare to Major League, a Major League product, couldn’t do it. And so the owners are going, “Oh my goodness, what are we going to do?” you know, “We’re trying to get these guys to come up and play but they’re horrible.” And they, they were. But the reason they’re in the minor leagues still, because they couldn’t play. And so it started to go on, all the sudden they figured out, “Hey, we got to settle this thing.” And they did, quickly. Early in ’95 they settled, teams came back in, got them back on track, and there, and there we were; they had Major League Baseball again. Yeah, there was a few people mad but how many years did it take before we started having full parks again? Not very long...

Cobb: (2:10:21) No.

Guetterman: (2:10:22) because they understand the value of a good product. And the TV revenues went back up, radio, all of it. So the long, there, there weren’t very many long term effects. Now, if we had, if we had folded, the long term effects for the players would have been probably irreparable. So, it was worth waiting and just, and you lose, you lose some money, but it was worth it over time to retain that, what they had and what they were looking to maintain. We were just looking to maintain the current agreement. The owners were wanting real cutbacks, back to the early ‘80s and ‘70s type of agreement and so we couldn’t afford to do that. They were trying to break us and fortunately we were able to hold.

Walters: (2:11:12) It seems as though, since we’re on the money situation, we asked Sid the same questions [*laughter*]. It seems as though many professional athletes have trouble managing

their money and planning for a career after their athletic career's over. Did your Christian worldview help you in, in helping a transition out of professional athletics into whatever you're doing now? I don't even know what you're, you're doing now. Maybe you're just coasting and...[laughter]

Cobb: (2:11:43) [laughter]

Guetterman: [laughter] Well, I didn't, I don't know how much Sid made. I have no idea. I made uh...

Walters: (2:11:53) You don't have to tell us [chuckle] along those lines. I, I was meaning that...

Cobb: (2:11:57) It's just a kind of a...

Walters: (2:11:58) more general question.

Cobb: general question. Did you spend all your salary on, you know, Cadillacs and condos and so the, by the time you retired you were in the poorhouse?

Guetterman: (2:12:06) No. I invested my money in real estate. I didn't make a whole lot, of course that's relative to, you know, your job and my job. That's obviously two different worlds. A perspective is what you see a ballplayer make, and the publicize them, they take home about half, ok, they get about half of it. So on a million dollar contract, a guy's going to make half a million dollars because of taxes, basically. They're going to, the highest tax bracket. They get taxed at every state that they play in, every state, ok. The expenses in a big league city are enormous, alright. You're going to spend fifty thousand dollars or more to rent a place in a major league city by the time it's all said and done. So there, there, you know, food's just, it's just more expensive.

Cobb: (2:13:09) So the twelve dollars a day meal that you got from...

Walters: (2:13:11) [*laughter*]

Guetterman: [*laughter*]

Cobb: (2:13:12) from Liberty isn't...

Guetterman: (2:13:15) Yeah. Well, the Major League meal money when I played was a hundred and twenty five dollars a day, ok, on the road. And in New York with a five, five dollar glass of iced tea that is not refillable, ok. That's what you can run into very easily. I mean, you can run into an eighty dollar meal, you know, in a minute, you know. Just, you go into Carnegie Deli and it was twenty five dollars for a sandwich, ok, and then you buy a Coke. So um...

Walters: (2:13:49) Sure.

Guetterman: (2:13:50) so, you know, you run into issues when you're on the road like that, so that, that was part of the agreement that the players had negotiated over time so that they could be compensated when they went on the road. I was fortunate in being in a Christian environment. There were organizations like Pro Athletes Outreach who, whose goal is to educate professional athletes in the unique environment that they live in, in how to handle those kinds of finances. How to handle when relatives come out of the woodwork and go, "Hey, can you loan me a five thousand spot?" you know.

Cobb: (2:14:32) "Because I was really nice to you."

Guetterman: (2:14:35) Yeah, yeah. "Hey, you're doing really well. Can I have a little bit of that?" They would, they taught us how to handle those kinds of things. And because I had that early on and it already established when I got there that uh...and I had a mentor who helped me develop real estate investments and that's what I have now; a lot of rental properties that I manage and that's kind of my livelihood. I took my income and invested in something that would give me a return later. I knew I wasn't going to play forever. And I didn't trust

somebody else to handle my money and tell me when I was done, “Oh, by the way, you lost, lost all your income in mutual funds because we invested there and it went, bottomed out,” you know. I didn’t do that because the, the first principle is, you know, as an owner, you’re going to take a lot more interest and care in your own stuff than somebody else would. And so I had to learn a lot of stuff. I had to learn how to manage money. How to, ok, how do I do real estate? What does that look like? How do I buy a house? How do I rent it? What, how much do I rent it for? What are my rules of thumb that I know I’m going to make money on? So this mentor helped me learn all of that stuff. And so I’ve been fortunate to be fairly stable right now. Even in this economy, my rentals are doing pretty well. So for me, that’s, that’s been a saving, a saving grace that, that...God knew I would need that and he allowed that to take place in my life and, and I didn’t trust somebody else to handle all of that stuff so I went and learned it. So, for me, I’ve been fortunate and I’ve tried a couple of things that I wasn’t involved in or didn’t know much about and I got burned, so, but that happens. You think you’re doing really good and you think, “Oh, I’ll try this.” Well, my advice to anybody if, you know, that’s hearing it, know what you’re getting into, so. That, that answer it pretty good?

Cobb: (2:17:01) Yeah.

Walters: Yeah, that sure did. As you’re, in your baseball career here...we have fifteen minutes and a couple more questions.

Guetterman: (2:17:08) Ok.

Walters: (2:17:09) Can you give us fifteen more minutes?

Guetterman: (2:17:10) Oh yeah.

Walters: (2:17:11) In your baseball career, something I didn't want to skip here, what's your difficult situation that you ever had to pitch through? And which do you enjoy most as a pitcher, starting, closing...?

Guetterman: (2:17:24) The most difficult pitching situation? Um...

Cobb: (2:17:33) Other than Dave Winfield [*laughter*].

Guetterman: (2:17:35) [*laughter*]

Walters: (2:17:36) Yeah, he asked you about that and have that crossed off here.

Guetterman: (2:17:39) Yeah. Well, the, the most difficult scenario I came up on, on the surface would have been when I was with the Yankees and I was facing Boston. This was in September of '88 when I first went over there. Wade Boggs comes up with the bases loaded in the eighth inning and uh...well, it was actually the ninth inning. And it was a tie game, it was eight to eight. And the bases loaded and we had one out and um...you know, Wade Boggs, lifetime three thirty hitter. My first year in the big leagues he was, he was three for three off of me with a homerun and we didn't have, I didn't have any idea how to get this guy out. We tried to go by the book which was off speed away from a left hander. Didn't work. He got a hit off of me every time I saw him. And so the next year, '87, I thought, "You know what, I am not going there." The first time I saw him I said, "This is my bread and butter pitch," a little sinker, he's a left handed hitter, "I don't care. I can't get him out the other way. I'm going to try it this way." Well, for the next year, every time I faced him I got him out; every time. And I threw him one pitch; a sinker down the middle that ran in on his hands a little bit. And so I changed the book on him for me because the book on him for everybody else was breaking balls away. So, '88, at the end of the year, all that year I got him out regularly. So I'm getting called into the game late September. I'm confident, I own this guy, right? I do. He hasn't got a hit off of me in almost

two years, ok? So, I walk up there and I said, getting warmed up, ready to go, and, “Let’s go. This is going to be easy. Either there’s going to be a double play or a pop-up.” That’s what he had done the last two years off of me. So I get in there and I’m, I’m warmed up and I’m ready and all of the sudden I see Wade Boggs going back to the dugout. I’m like, “What’s, what’s, where you going? Where you going...?”

Cobb: (2:20:08) [*laughter*]

Guetterman: (2:20:09) “You’re my out. Where are you going?” you know? And I see this big, huge black guy come out, ok. Pinch hitter, veteran, right hander, ok, and I’m trying to think of his name right now. What is his name? Homerun hitter, thirty homeruns every year. What is his name? It’ll come to me shortly, I hope. Anyway, catcher comes out...ok, now I’m not, I’m not facing Wade Boggs anymore, alright. And I’m going, “Oh no,” I mean, in my mind I’m going, “Oh no. I have never faced this guy.” Ok, huge right hander...

Cobb: (2:20:52) Not like Albert Bell or anything like that, was it?

Guetterman: (2:20:55) He was with Cleveland.

Cobb: (2:20:56) Ok, yeah.

Guetterman: (2:20:57) Yeah. This guy’s an older veteran in 1988. I cannot think of his name right now. He, he’s got this big huge white bat. It looks like a monster club, you know, and I’m going...and the catcher comes out and there’s, here’s a little added stuff, he goes, “What are you going to throw him?” [*laughter*].

Walters: (2:21:20) [*laughter*]

Cobb: [*laughter*] Wait a minute, aren’t you supposed to be...

Guetterman: (2:21:22) Yeah, I said, “You’re the catcher. You should know, you’re supposed to know these guys.” I said, “I’ve never faced him before. This is the first time I’ve ever faced

him.” He goes, and then so I said, “I guess I’ll just throw him my sinker.” I mean, that’s my best pitch. I got to go with...

Walters: (2:21:37) Same thing you would have done with Boggs, right?

Guetterman: (2:21:39) Yeah, yeah, because I know that’s what I’d get him out with. So I go, “I’m going to throw my sinker because that’s my best pitch and it really doesn’t matter what his weakness is.” Well, of course he didn’t tell me, so, “What are you going to throw?” So, he gets back there and um...Jim Rice, that’s who it is.

Cobb: (2:22:02) It was Jim Rice?

Guetterman: (2:22:03) Jim Rice.

Cobb: (2:22:04) Oh, wow.

Guetterman: (2:22:05) Yes. I knew I’d, his name would come to me.

Cobb: (2:22:06) Pretty recent Hall of Famer, Jim Rice, right?

Guetterman: (2:22:08) Yeah.

Cobb: (2:22:09) I think he just...

Guetterman: (2:22:10) I don’t, I don’t, well, he should be if he’s not.

Cobb: (2:22:12) Yeah, ok.

Guetterman: (2:22:13) Jim, yeah, big homerun hitter a lot of years.

Cobb: (2:22:16) Oh yeah. I don’t know why I would have thought of Jim Rice.

Guetterman: (2:22:19) So, he comes, first pitch, I’m throwing, I throw a sinker, I just throw it as hard as I could throw it. Sinker right down the middle, bases loaded and, and I literally, I, I threw the ball and closed my eyes. I don’t know why. And I heard the crack of the back, the bat and I, and I opened it and I see the groundball going to my shortstop. And I said, “Yes! I got him!” And it went right to my shortstop and we got out of the inning and that was probably the

most nerving moment that I can remember in pitching because I, I mean, here, I mean, we're talking the last two weeks of September, we got a chance for the playoffs, you know, all that stuff. And here I got to face...

Cobb: (2:23:04) Jim Rice.

Walters: Sure.

Guetterman: (2:23:05) Jim Rice and I've never faced him before. In that situation coming from a situation that I have total confidence in, in facing Wade Boggs who I own.

Walters: (2:23:16) Total unknown, yeah. Well...

Guetterman: (2:23:19) Yeah, to, yeah, to that. And I'm like, "[*exhales*] what a relief."

Walters: (2:23:22) Right, sure. So, would you rather close a game or start a game?

Guetterman: (2:23:26) I enjoyed both, I really did. When I was in the minor leagues coming up, I was a starter the whole time. I started here for four years. I was a work hoarse. They mentioned last night that I had thirty complete games, twenty-nine wins, and forty-seven starts. So, I mean, I was a work hoarse. I threw a lot and when I started something, I usually finished it and so I enjoyed that.

Cobb: (2:23:56) Did you say thirty complete games in forty-seven starts?

Guetterman: (2:23:59) Yeah.

Cobb: (2:24:00) That's an innings eater.

Guetterman: (2:24:01) Huh? Yeah, it is. Yes, so, that was, Coach Worthington was reading that on the, on our things last night.

Cobb: (2:24:11) Your bullpen buy you dinner when you were starting pitcher?

Guetterman: (2:24:15) [*laughter*] They couldn't afford that here.

Cobb: (2:24:17) [*laughter*] Yeah, they couldn't. I guess that's true.

Guetterman: (2:24:22) Yeah, but I enjoyed starting. And then, and there was times when I was a middle reliever and I really enjoyed that because I would, just the, the loyalty issue in my personality. I didn't care, just, just, I enjoyed it so I did my job, you know. That was my goal. I do my job, I was satisfied. Because outside of that I can't control what happens. I'd always have goals with what I wanted to do wherever I was at. To be in the big leagues, for a kid, you know, in suburban Southern California home...

Walters: (2:24:56) Right.

Guetterman: (2:24:57) you know, it was a dream come true and then to stay there for, you know, twelve seasons...

Walters: (2:25:04) Sure.

Guetterman: (2:25:05) was just ecstatic.

Walters: (2:25:06) What team did you cheer for as a kid?

Guetterman: (2:25:08) As a kid? The Padres.

Walters: (2:25:10) Yeah? Ok.

Guetterman: (2:25:11) Dave, here's a little side note. I used to go watch Dave Winfield when I would go down to watch the Padres, he was a rookie in, what, '74 or something like that. I would go watch him and just amazing watching that guy play. Well, when I got traded to the Yankees, I walked up to him and said, "Dave, not to make you feel old or anything, but I used to watch you play when I was in junior high school," *[laughter]*.

Walters: (2:25:37) *[laughter]*

Cobb: *[laughter]*

Guetterman: (2:25:39) He said, "Shut up."

Walters: (2:25:40) *[laughter]*

Cobb: *[laughter]*

Guetterman: (2:25:41) So, but starting, relieving I just enjoyed pitching and playing baseball in the big leagues. As the dream come true and the dream that maintained until I was thirty-eight years old. And there's not very many people that can say they've done that. And I will forever appreciate my time there. I know the Lord gave me that as a platform to share about who he is and if it wasn't for Major League Baseball, even Major League Baseball, I wouldn't be getting into places that I get into and I know that and I realize that and I appreciate that so every card that I get in the mail, I still get cards in the mail to sign, you know, I have an appreciation for it, even now, of what I was able to accomplish. I'll never, I'll never not be a fan of baseball. I coach it now. I teach kids what I know and I enjoy that as, as much as I did playing. I want...

Cobb: (2:26:49) What, what level do you coach?

Guetterman: (2:26:51) High school, yeah. I...

Walters: (2:26:54) Is it for Christian or public...?

Guetterman: (2:26:55) Yeah, Christian, well, right now I'm developing a program for home school organization in, in the Knoxville area to give, to give those kids an opportunity to play baseball because they don't have one because of T double S double A rules. That is a Tennessee organization that prevents them from playing with the public schools there. So, I'll always enjoy it. When I was done at thirty-eight it wasn't by my choice, it's because nobody would give me a uniform anymore.

Walters: (2:27:28) *[laughter]*

Guetterman: (2:27:29) So, I'll always love it. I'll always enjoy it. So um...

Walters: (2:27:35) Well, you've talked, um...you've mentioned about last night, the banquet. You're here in town in for the, for the listener, you're here in town this weekend to be inducted into Liberty University's newly established athletics Hall of Fame. What does that mean to you?

Guetterman: (2:27:53) It's an accomplishment. It, you kind of get at a loss for words for what it really means. I mean, I, what I did is I performed to the best of my ability at something that I love to do and now I'm getting, now I'm getting a claim for that. And the, the more years that go by, the more special my time here was or becomes. And I still have, actually hold a couple of records here after, well, thirty years.

Walters: (2:28:31) And still being held.

Guetterman: (2:28:32) Huh?

Walters: (2:28:33) They're holding up.

Guetterman: (2:28:34) They're holding up and to me that's kind of like, "Whoa, that's kind of a big deal," you know. I don't know the full impact will ever, I don't know if I'll ever feel the full impact of what that means, but to be...it's kind of like Paul says, finishing the course, you know, staying with it. That's what my goal is now is to, what God has called me to do to finish that. Solomon fell off the wagon, so to speak. A man full of wisdom and understanding failed in the end having compromised in a lot of areas. I don't want to do that. And so that's, that's kind of a, I don't know if it's so much a scary thought but as a, as a, a warning to keep working and going forward in God's call in my life to be a reconciler of men to God. That's what we all are. All of his children are ministers of reconciliation of men to God because we have been reconciled so that's our job as disciples, to put in a nutshell what we're supposed to be about. But this honor is that, it's an honor to be selected among so many athletes who have come through here and accomplished as much. I just want to keep, I just want to hold this University

to be proud of me continually. I don't want to fall off that wagon, so to speak. To, I don't look at it as more pressure to perform or to stay but just a, it's an affirmation to me of what I've been doing now with my life since I've been, I've been done playing. We've done that with the school we started in Lenoir City, Tennessee. It's a small Christian school that's a hybrid; homeschooling and classroom education mixed. But our, you know, our mission statement is to praise Him, proclaim Him, and to promote His kingdom. And teaching the kids in these three areas to praise Him in the arts and displayed in, in visual arts and in performing arts. And to proclaim Him through technology, writing, and speech. And to promote His kingdom through entrepreneurialship for the purpose of funding kingdom work. That's what God has called us to here in the last few years. And preparing up people for the Lord is kind of our little, single mantra. To do His work in all, in those three areas. So, we've got two of them working and we're still working on the third but to continue to answer God's call in our lives. So, I mean, it's like, when that, when I got the word that, back in June, that I was going to be inducted, I was like, "Whoa, that's pretty cool." So...

Walters: (2:32:03) [*chuckle*] Well, good. How often have you been back to Liberty?

Guetterman: (2:32:09) I was here two years ago for an alumni game and then I was here last May to see my niece graduate.

Walters: (2:32:16) Ok.

Guetterman: (2:32:18) Her, she works here currently on the police force, the LU police force.

Walters: (2:32:23) So you've been in touch with Liberty...

Guetterman: (2:32:26) Yeah, yeah.

Walters: (2:32:27) over the years pretty, pretty actively. What's been the biggest change you've seen as you've visited and what does the future look like here as far as what you can see the, the trajectory of where things are going in athletics and all?

Guetterman: (2:32:40) The, the biggest change was, I was sitting in the stadium floor at graduation and watching forty-four hundred graduates sitting out there and I was reflecting back to my own class that's three hundred and seventy [*laughter*]...

Walters: (2:32:57) [*laughter*]

Guetterman: (2:32:58) in my graduating class at Liberty and just the, the stick-to-itiveness that Dr. Falwell had in really pushing this and the energy that it took for him to, to just keep pushing this. He didn't sit back and let it happen or, I mean, he pushed hard to make this, make this happen and then all the sudden the explosion of getting the GE building a few years ago. Over a million square feet of space. It just like, like that just exploded this whole place. It was incredible. It was like...and the school was ready for it. It seemed like they were just prepared for it. And the, the fact they kept working and everybody just kept moving, kept working, kept at it. And that's an encouragement to me and our little school and what we're doing. Just keep at it. Keep doing what, keep walking in obedience to what God's call is to do and He'll take care of what He knows will happen, what's going to happen, and what needs to happen for all those kids. When I, you know, I come here and I'm walking in red clay mud. My daughter comes here and she's looking at a beautiful campus.

Cobb: (2:34:18) With bus escorting her to places back and forth.

Walters: (2:34:21) [*laughter*]

Guetterman: (2:34:22) [*laughter*] Yeah, so, and, just, it's amazing to see what happens when we are persistent in what God calls us to do. And even though, and Dr. Falwell's dream is still

materializing, it's not done, ok, and it won't be done for a while, what he envisioned. But he knew as he was laying the ground work, it was, eventually, it was going to be. He may not see it all. And that happens a lot, when, in, in the visionary's, you know, lifetime, a lot of times he doesn't see the finished product but he's still faithful to it anyway knowing that if as long as he's faithful and called to what he's been called to do, it'll come about. God will see to that.

Walters: (2:35:13) We wanted to give out interviewees a chance at each interview to call the last shot, so to speak. Anything that we haven't asked or anything that you want to put on the record for, for people who would be listening to the interview ten, twenty, thirty, fifty years from now. What, what, if anything, would you like to say to those folks about Liberty or your experience or your...

Cobb: (2:35:40) Or Dr. Falwell or anything about the University.

Guetterman: (2:35:43) Well, I would want everybody, I mean everybody, that, that comes through here to know the history. Know where this came from. Know what pioneers of the school went through; what they, what they had to go through to help it become what it is now. There are some originals still here. Not many, but there are some. I think of the Bonheims; Bob, Robert, and uh...

Cobb: (2:36:14) Brenda.

Guetterman: (2:36:15) Brenda, yeah. You know, there among the very early folks that were teachers here and coaches. The Al Worthingtons, obviously the Jerry Falwells. Go through the museum. Learn the history of this place because if we don't, we'll, we'll forget and if you forget, you'll be in trouble. I think the same thing holds for our country. Right now there's a lot of history being rewritten to eliminate God's hand in the development and establishment of one of the most unique countries on the face of this earth. I think the same thing goes for this

University. It's one of the most unique universities in the world with their concept of, of developing lives, changing lives one degree at a time with the foundation, spiritual foundation of Christ into the liberal arts, into the general market place. Trying to make an impact there rather than just the development of a Bible school for ministers and such. A very unique place. So to remember our history, I think, can be critical. To know where we've come from, to hear the stories of those, of those...and I kind of feel like, like I'm a pioneer having walked through the mud and stayed in the places where I stayed and through the, and it was hard, it was hard. And I won't, I won't kid you, I didn't, and I told you early on, I didn't want to be here. But God's grace was poured out on us to make this thing happen. And that's what I would want to leave; is to remember that. And if they don't, go back, begin to remember so that there's a greater appreciation and a seeing of the handy work. When, when Israel crossed the Jordan, what did God have them do in remembrance of what He did so that when their children asked, "Why are these rocks piled up here?" they would tell the story of what God did. That's what we need to have, is memorials set up so that when they're viewed, why? The children, the grandchildren, and the great grandchildren would ask, "What is this here? What is this about?" and then they would know the story and they would see God's handy work on this place.

Walters: (2:38:57) Well thank you. I've sure enjoyed the interview and I guess with that we'll conclude today's interview with Mr. Lee Guetterman. Thank you so much for spending time with us. This interview has been conducted as part of the oral history project of the Liberty University archives.

[end of interview]