

## Ed Tyson

Summary from Videotape, 19 December 2009, interview by Wally Hagaman at Searls Library

### ED—SPEAKING ABOUT SEARLS LIBRARY

He met Doris Foley at a Nevada County Historical Society meeting

She remarked that he, as a librarian, might like to work at the Searls Library 1 day a week

He worked for 8 months and answered correspondence

Doris went on a vacation for 2 weeks and left Ed in charge

By the 80's and 90's he was working 6 days a week at Searls

He fought being taken over by the County Library--with help from Fred Searls

He remarked that [in a fiscal crisis] Library funds were always first to be cut.

### ED—SPEAKING ABOUT HIS PERSONAL LIFE

He grew up in the midwest on a farm in northwest Missouri (14 miles south of Iowa; 20 miles east of Nebraska. Winters were COLD.

Childhood: He had always been a reader

His mother was a graduate of a music conservatory

He learned piano at age 5

He taught music before entering army in WW II

During WWII he attended UC Berkeley for 1 year in Clinical Psychology

He practiced piano 3 hrs a day

He served in WWII

He didn't touch a piano for 4 years

After WWII he attended UC Berkeley Graduate School in English (having abandoned the piano)

He received a Masters Degree in Librarianship at University of Washington.

His teaching career ranged from middle school to college:

middle school in Pittsburg, California

City College of San Jose (commuted from Los Gatos--hated the traffic),

He retired to Nevada City

Stayed weekends at a friend's cabin 2 mi above Nevada City in 70's

Bought adjoining 4 acres and built a home--where "trees so thick grass won't grow"

Didn't want to spend retirement keeping up a lawn

Property was 2 mile from town on a good road. He commented with a smile: "I Like IT!"

ED'S LAST VIDEOTAPED COMMENTS

[He] Never regretted coming to Nevada City...."It's a good way to end it!"

He said this:

"I had to laugh:

Last January the DMV renewed my driver's license; I couldn't believe it. They renewed it for five years. I said 'I think that will be long enough--I'll be 92 in about three weeks. That should hold me!