

**VOICES OF THE CAPE FEAR  
INTERVIEW WITH JOSEPH R. REAVES**

**SEPTEMBER 18, 1995**

**INTRODUCTION**

**This is Sam Bissette on the afternoon of September 18th, Monday afternoon and we're at home at 1939 South Live Oak Parkway and with me is a lifetime friend, Joe Reaves. Joe lives down at Wrightsville Beach now and he's been agreeable to trying to share some of his experiences and a little about the part he's played in or has observed in Wilmington during his lifetime and that's what we're going to try to do this afternoon.**

INTERVIEWER: So Joe, in order to get started off, unless you are sensitive about your age, how about telling me when and where you were born and a little about that.

REAVES: I was born in the area of Middle Sound, which is north of Wilmington; actually born on the sound with a midwife, and lived there on the sound for a while before the family moved into town. Dad operated a grocery store for many, many years on South Front Street.

INTERVIEWER: What was the date?

REAVES: It was after World War I of course, and he had saved some money working in the munitions plant in Virginia. He came to Wilmington and opened up his operation here. At the advice of some friends, he didn't take all of his money and buy the grocery business, but put some of the money in the bank and you know what happened to the banks. They failed and he lost all his money and he had to start from scratch and pay off his debt.

INTERVIEWER: That is an unfortunate story and it happened to so many people with the failure of the banks and the depression. What age are you now?

REAVES: I'm 74.

INTERVIEWER: All right good.

REAVES: Same as Sam.

INTERVIEWER: I finally got it out of you. Okay, that makes you a little Sounder then doesn't it?

REAVES: Little Sounder.

INTERVIEWER: With a little sand in your shoes?

REAVES: And a little tar on my heels.

INTERVIEWER: And you know what it is to put a fishing rod in the water, I guess. Joe, where did you go to grammar school?

REAVES: I went into William Hooper, Forest Hills, and later on into Tileston. You know we only had eleven grades and went into high school of course, for four years.

INTERVIEWER: I had heard some question brought up and people hadn't been able to remember for sure as to whether or not one of the grades was suspended during the depth of the depression. Does that ring a bell at all to you?

REAVES: It does not ring a bell at all for me.

INTERVIEWER: I thought I would ask you that anyway. Well, you went into some schools one named for a declaration of independence signer. We have some schools in Wilmington that are named for some very famous people. When did you get into high school? About what year?

REAVES: 1934. Isn't that when we started?

INTERVIEWER: I was in three different high schools; Rocky Mount, Goldsboro, and Wilmington. It is hard to remember when I went where or what.

REAVES: You know we were in the first ROTC program that was at New Hanover High School?

INTERVIEWER: That's right.

REAVES: I'd like to tell you a little story here. Back when I was a youngster, dad was in the grocery business and had charge accounts. He had delivery on bicycles and we delivered all over town; Sunset Park, Carolina Heights, Forest Hills, and whatever. There was a businessman in town who had some difficulty with finances and couldn't pay his bill, so he told Dad to come down and to pick up something out of the jewelry store. Dad didn't need anything, but he went down there in order to get back a little something out of the groceries that had been taken out of the store. He took a watch and let me have it. I was in Tileston School at the time, probably in the fourth or fifth grade and because I had a watch, they would let me go into the central corridor of Tileston School and ring the bell for changing classes. I was top dog there.

INTERVIEWER: I never realized that. I know some of your later honors, but I didn't realize that.

REAVES: Just because I got a watch.

INTERVIEWER: You got a watch because someone didn't have the funds to be able to handle their debt. Joe, do you have any remembrances of the depression period other than that? That was the period we are talking about now from basically 1930 to 1936.

REAVES: Yes, I remember a few things. At that time, Dad stayed in the grocery business in downtown Wilmington and we stayed above the store at that time to save.

INTERVIEWER: Yes.

REAVES: One experience that I had as an outgrowth of all that was interesting. We were not able to have a dog, which as you know, us boys like to have a dog around.

INTERVIEWER: Yes.

REAVES: The Salvation Army was down the street and they had a collie dog. I borrowed the collie dog to enter a dog show that was a dog parade in downtown Wilmington. I took the dog, washed him up, cleaned him up, freshened him up, entered in the parade, and out of it, I won a baseball mit.

INTERVIEWER: Which was something we wanted in those days.

REAVES: Right.

INTERVIEWER: Were you in the R.O.T.C. in the last year of high school?

REAVES: Yes, I was in ROTC.

INTERVIEWER: Do you remember the parades downtown when we would parade in the streets?

REAVES: I was in the Military Police contention group with David Brinkley and unfortunately, we didn't get a chance to see each other too often because most of the time we were blocking traffic and he was at one corner and I was at another corner.

INTERVIEWER: Oh, I see, so you were actually working the parade?

REAVES: We were working the traffic for you fellows to parade.

INTERVIEWER: Yes.

REAVES: So, we'd just give you the right of way so you could go on and do your stuff.

INTERVIEWER: Well then that makes Earl Hewitt your boss, then?

REAVES: Earl Hewitt was our boss, the Little Carolina Beach Road boy.

INTERVIEWER: Well, I'm not going to top you, but I'm going to give you a parallel story right quick. One Friday morning one of the parades was starting to go over to the parade ground at 13th and Ann Streets. All of a sudden for some reason, Ray Funderburk didn't show up, Eatle Hewitt wasn't there, and Morris Merritt wasn't there. That was two Captains and a Major missing and Bobby Whittaker was the first lieutenant. He wasn't there and I was the junior person on the staff as second lieutenant. There we were ready to leave. If you remember Major Ochs stomping up and down in his calvary boots and wanting to know where everybody was and all I could say was, "Sir I don't know." He said, "Well I've had enough of this, Lieutenant, move this battalion out." So there I was faced with four hundred men to give orders to that I had never given before and he didn't tell me what it was. I just happened to remember the first one and called "company A Squads right march" and everybody moved off. And by then, here come...

REAVES: Sergeant Gruits?

INTERVIEWER: Well, Sergeant Gruits wasn't present at the moment.

REAVES: Oh, he wasn't? Well, all right.

INTERVIEWER: But, Ray Funderburk came on the run almost tripping over his sabre as he ran and Morris Merritt came on the run. The others showed up as they heard the battalion marching off and they knew they weren't there. Boy, it was a mix up. Do you have any other high school day remembrances? We had a fine class of people and as a matter of fact, let's mark the record, tomorrow 52 of us are going to be meeting at Wrightsville Beach for the anniversary.

REAVES: That's right, it will be good to get back with the old folks again. Back in those days, we had

an opportunity to work and do various things, but I worked in my dad's grocery store a lot. I didn't get involved a whole lot in extra activities during the school period, but I do remember a lot of things down at Wrightsville Beach. On the weekends, we would go down to Wrightsville and have water football and I made a kayak one year and we would go down there and surf and ride that kayak. We always had to carry little extra strips of lumber with us, that is, some canvas, and a pot of glue so we could fix it every time we came in. We would bash it up and we would patch it up and go back again. We did have a lot of fun at Wrightsville Beach.

INTERVIEWER: Those were pre-epoxy days.

REAVES: Yes, that's right.

INTERVIEWER: Yes. Well, Wrightsville Beach seems to be in the background of just about everybody who has lived here because at the other end of the streetcar line was where all the fun was.

REAVES: That's true.

INTERVIEWER: Except in wintertime, of course.

REAVES: During the days, we used to go down there on Sunday School picnics from the church and there would be big barrels of lemonade and all the good cooking. You could get a bathing suit from the Lumina and they had the Lumina emblem on the chest of it and they were all black wool.

INTERVIEWER: Wool jerseys, I had forgotten those.

REAVES: And those great picnic times.

INTERVIEWER: Yes, I guess it was. And then, it was you and I that told each other we learned about girls a little late or something?

REAVES: We were all considered to be a little on the shy side.

INTERVIEWER: That's right and I found out about 40 years later that the girls liked that, but I didn't know that then.

REAVES: Well, we learned a little bit too late didn't we.

INTERVIEWER: Well, not too late. We both did all right.

REAVES: In the end, it all turned out okay.

INTERVIEWER: Well, all right. Let's talk about one more thing before we forget this. I would like to establish your family background with just a little bit about who you were married to and your children.

REAVES: After the war, I came back to Wilmington and went down to Lumina to a dance. Coy Hewitt, a Wilmingtonian, introduced me to my future wife, Camille Long. Later on, Camille introduced Coy to what turned out to be his wife.

INTERVIEWER: That's quite a ....

REAVES: Camille and I were married in the late 1940's after I got out of the service.

INTERVIEWER: Your children are from that marriage?

REAVES: We had two daughters.

INTERVIEWER: Yes.

REAVES: Laura and Sharon.

INTERVIEWER: Okay.

REAVES: And then....

INTERVIEWER: And then later, you had the misfortune to lose the lovely lady.

REAVES: Yes she had a brain tumor and I lost her. She was a delightful lady and we had a wonderful life.

INTERVIEWER: And then you married another delightful lady, Ann.

REAVES: Yes, Ann and I met in church. She and her husband lived in Wilmington and she lost her husband, we got together, and I brought her back from Raleigh to Wilmington. We've been married now for 10 years.

INTERVIEWER: We've had the very fortunate privilege of knowing both of them and it has been a delight. Joe, we've talked about church a couple of times. Which church do you go to and tell me a little bit about your church life?

REAVES: I was raised in a small church at the corner of 4th and Church Street, at the Fourth Street Advent Christian Church which is sort of a spin-off from the Baptists. After we were married, Camille being a Catholic, we tried to find a church that we could blend our backgrounds and be happy. We started going to the St. Paul's Lutheran Church and stayed in that church and became members of St. Paul's Lutheran Church at 6th and Market Streets.

INTERVIEWER: One of our fine Wilmington downtown historic churches. You are still, from what you told me a time or two when I called you, busy with church activities.

REAVES: Well, I have enjoyed the activity of the church and presently, I'm chairman of the finance committee for the past two years. Hopefully, I'll be able to turn that over to somebody else the first of the year.

INTERVIEWER: That church has a beautiful ceiling inside and the stained glass too. The ceiling is rather remarkable.

REAVES: Thank you.

INTERVIEWER: Let's backup now a little bit back to getting out of school. Could you recount briefly for me what happened in connection with you getting out of school and how you ended up being one of Uncle Sam's men flying the flying machine?

REAVES: As you know, we graduated in 1938 and I went off to State College for a year in the School of

Architecture/Architectural Engineering and I went there for a year and came back, but because of various circumstances, I elected to work in the marketplace and did so until just about the outbreak of the war. I was looking around for the opportunity to get into the service. I had had a little bit of flight training and the requirements had just been reduced to one year of college to apply for cadet training in the navel aviation division and I did apply for that and went on through flight training and finished up in Pensacola, Florida in the summer of 1943.

INTERVIEWER: Yes, and that made you into a Navy pilot?

REAVES: A Navy pilot, yes.

INTERVIEWER: Okay, what were some of your assignments?

REAVES: After receiving my wings in Pensacola, I stayed on in Pensacola and was a flight instructor for a year and a half on single engine and multi engine aircraft. Then, I was transferred to the Pacific and I flew four engine transports throughout the entire Pacific area. One of our main operations was to bring back the wounded patients from the frontline back up to the hospital areas.

INTERVIEWER: Yes.

REAVES: And we had nurses to board our flights.

INTERVIEWER: And Evacuation squadrons, too?

REAVES: We had evacuation squadrons, correct. And after I got out of the service, I stayed in the Reserves and I was called back in the Korean war and during the Korean war, I flew the North Atlantic based in Massachusetts. We also flew over to Europe and up to the North Pole.

INTERVIEWER: Were you ferrying aircraft?

REAVES: No, we were doing transport operations.

INTERVIEWER: Transport operations, okay. Joe, let's step on now just a little to your getting back after the war. Before I do, this thought, was there anything of significance that you witnessed that you'd like to tell us about? Were there any particular happenings that may be of interest? Everyone has a few interesting things to happen to them in life. In that period of time, was it all pretty steady?

REAVES: We had a lot of routine flying. I remember one time down in Pensacola, we were getting towards the end of a months' time and the commanding officer was so in hopes of making a particular goal of so many hours flown, and even though I had run out of my student load that I carried, he said get it in the plane and fly; we want you to build up hours. So, I think that particular month, I flew 120 hours and I think in a single engine aircraft over there, in a trainer.

INTERVIEWER: Were you going nowhere?

REAVES: I was just boring holes up there. Another situation on a personal side here, right toward the end of the war, we went into a small island off the coast of Japan. It was on Christmas eve and here again, on a transport operation, we flew in, in the afternoon and we waited for the plane to be serviced and cargo to be placed aboard. And they had no running water for showers, so we all took a bath in the ocean and we went out that evening sitting underneath the skies and looking at a movie waiting for the plane to be completed, serviced and ready to go. We had K-rations for our meal there on Christmas Day.

We got in the plane and headed toward the east, we crossed the international date line, and doing so, we landed there on a Christmas morning. We took a little nap, got up, and we had a full turkey spread of Thanksgiving dinner, so I had two Christmases that particular year.

INTERVIEWER: Yes, that's interesting. I don't believe I can handle one most of the time.

REAVES: Well after some K-rations anybody can enjoy....

INTERVIEWER: Many people don't know what a K-ration is. What is a K-ration?

REAVES: It is canned food. It will carry you on until you get something better.

INTERVIEWER: What's in it usually?

REAVES: It's been so long, I don't believe I want anymore of it. It is sort of like Spam.

INTERVIEWER: I know the answer to that; I thought other people might like to know it too.

REAVES: I don't want to elaborate on it.

INTERVIEWER: It was a little can of potted meat, a little can of potted cheese, a little chocolate bar that was hard without any sugar in it, and stuff like that.

REAVES: Yes.

INTERVIEWER: Okay, when you came back to Wilmington after the war, what was happening to you and to Wilmington in the early 1950's?

REAVES: After the war, I married Camille and went to State College for a couple of years. I found out I really didn't want to get into architectural engineering, so I left and came back and got in real estate and the construction business. I opened up my own office at first with my dad and things were tough in those days. The town was not a growing metropolis that we have today. It was difficult to get started in a business, but we enjoyed a good lifestyle and then in 195? When did the Coast Line leave? In 195?

INTERVIEWER: The later 1950's. I know when that was, but I don't remember the exact year. That was quite an event, wasn't it?

REAVES: Very definitely. It paid a toll on people's attitudes in Wilmington. When the Coast Line left, people felt that the bottom had dropped out and there was no future in Wilmington. They just lost confidence in the town and lost confidence in themselves, but in the end, it was a blessing for us because it brought about a lot of ingenuity, a lot of aggressive actions, and people seeing the outcome of what was started.

INTERVIEWER: That's an interesting observation and its not the first time I've heard that observation made that the Coast Line shook Wilmington to it's roots.

REAVES: It surely did, no question about that.

INTERVIEWER: There was the moving of seven or eight hundred families to Jacksonville, Florida.

REAVES: It was a tremendous loss in the community because these were all good paying people in the

community that were stable citizens of the town.

INTERVIEWER: If somebody said to you in those days, what was the third and eighteenth mean, what would you say? Do you remember?

REAVES: The third and eighteenth?

INTERVIEWER: Yes, of the month.

REAVES: Well, tell me something and then we will both know.

INTERVIEWER: That's the Coast Line payday.

REAVES: Oh, all right.

INTERVIEWER: We were talking about the Coast Line and I thought maybe you'd remember it.

REAVES: As you know, I wasn't a...

INTERVIEWER: You weren't as interested as we bankers were.

REAVES: Yes, that's right.

INTERVIEWER: That's when the lines formed at the windows, on the third and eighteenth. Okay, what did you name your company?

REAVES: It first started out as Reaves Realty Company. That was after World War II. Then in 1952, I was called back in the Korean War.

INTERVIEWER: Yes.

REAVES: I closed down the operation and I got out of the service in the late fall of 1954. I came back and found out that my dad had terminal cancer and died at the end of 1954. I reopened the business, but under the name of Contemporary Builders and Realty Corporation and I operated that for several years and later changed it to Harbor Associates.

INTERVIEWER: Did you have a partner when you opened?

REAVES: I had a partner that was a building inspector and he and I had a partnership for a short period of time and I bought him out.

INTERVIEWER: Yes, that was Everett Hale.

REAVES: Everett Hale. Later on, Mal Murray came into Wilmington and he and I formed a partnership.

INTERVIEWER: That's an interesting story that Mal told me one time. Tell me how you two became acquainted. Later on, the two of you created the Cotton Exchange downtown and we'll get to that in a few minutes.

REAVES: In conversation with Bill Emmart at First Citizens Bank while we were doing some banking, I commented one day that I thought it would be nice to have a good business partner to share the operation

and not long thereafter, Mal Murray came into Wilmington just looking for various opportunities. Bill made that....

INTERVIEWER: He had a northern background, if I remember.

REAVES: Yes, he was working in the north, but he had roots here in North Carolina. His wife Teddie, is from Mount Olive and he had roots here and had some family living in the area. He felt like it would be nice to come to North Carolina. He was looking all over the state for some opportunities and Bill told him about my conversation and the two of us got together and we hit it off well and are still hitting it off well.

INTERVIEWER: That's been twenty-five to thirty years ago.

REAVES: It's been right around twenty-five years ago, and it's been a real pleasure having him as a partner.

INTERVIEWER: Well he's been a real asset to Wilmington in his interest in Wilmington's affairs and to have a Massachusetts background and graduate of Boston University. I believe, if I'm not mistaken, he went to BU, so you two hit it off then as partners? You've been building houses, spec houses, some contract work and so forth in connection with the realty company, and also doing some sales and other things. Didn't you begin to look around then for real estate development work? Would you tell us a little bit about that?

REAVES: Mal and I were looking for some opportunities. We were attracted to the urban renewal of downtown Wilmington and our first thought was to put in a high-rise condo apartment unit in front of the Hilton Hotel on what is now the parking lot of the Cotton Exchange. The market study indicated that it was not appropriate to do that and the market would not support it, so we abandoned the idea. In talking with Lawrence Sanders, who was in charge of the urban renewal office here in Wilmington, the redevelopment commission, he said they were getting ready to tear down all the buildings on Front street, which was not the Cotton Exchange and he said why don't you take a look at that while you're looking.

INTERVIEWER: What are some those buildings? Tell us which buildings you're talking about.

REAVES: Well, they were going to tear down everything from the Sprunt Building, which was the old Cotton Exchange Building to the....

INTERVIEWER: The Sears building?

REAVES: The Sears Building to the end of the block and then we had the Dan Hart Building on Nut Street and the, the four story Granary Building there on Nutt Street.

INTERVIEWER: That was everything west of Front Street from Walnut ...

REAVES: Between Walnut, Grace, Front, and Nutt Streets. They used to have a hotel that served as a YMCA there at Front and Grace Street. They had already torn that down.

INTERVIEWER: That was the Wilmington Hotel, wasn't it?

REAVES: No, that was across the street. This was on the corner...

INTERVIEWER: Oh, I see.

REAVES: ... on the corner of Grace between Front and Nutt Street.

INTERVIEWER: Okay, I'm with you.

REAVES: The YMCA was in that building at one time.

INTERVIEWER: Yes, I didn't know that. I'm learning from that.

REAVES: They'd torn that building down and were planning on tearing others down and were getting bids, so we asked them to hold up on it and we started looking at them and trying to think of some use for the property. Based upon what we had heard of the success that had been generated up in Boston and Ghiradelli Square in San Francisco, we said let's look at the possibility of making an in-town shopping complex.

INTERVIEWER: Yes.

REAVES: We built the Cotton Exchange as it is today.

INTERVIEWER: You were telling me one day about looking at that property from the top of the Murchison Building had a bearing on your decision.

REAVES: Yes, we did. The urban renewal office was on the top floor of the Murchison Building and the First Union Building as it is now and looking down the property. You can see in the middle of the block there is an open area and this stimulated our thinking that this could be a courtyard which it is today, but that did have a bearing on it because the building itself did not provide a good flow of traffic without some sort of a break in the middle and that little courtyard in the middle would be the key to giving a little feeling about it that you just don't normally get in a mall.

INTERVIEWER: A little French cafe feeling.

REAVES: Or something like that.

INTERVIEWER: Something like that, yes.

REAVES: But it was a real experience.

INTERVIEWER: Well tell me when you started in and got this developed? What was the extent of the business occupation of it and the number and types of business and so forth that you started out with?

REAVES: There were two people in the building. There was a barber shop on Front Street that was operated by blacks and in years gone by. They were doing a thriving business serving Coast Line personnel and they were down to one chair and he worked part-time at that. The biggest operation there was Sutton-Council Furniture Company. They occupied the rest of the buildings in the block with a retail store on Front Street in the middle of the block, but they used the rest of the building as warehouse, storage, and whatnot.

INTERVIEWER: I see.

REAVES: They had been notified to relocate because they were going to demolish the buildings. Just before they left, a fire started on Nutt Street and swept through the central part of the block and did

massive damage. That was just before we took title to the property and we had to do some very serious analysis in order to come up with whether we should continue on with our idea or to back off. We'd spent so much time on it and our hopes were so great to complete it that we went ahead with it even though there was a lot more damage and a lot more work to be done because of that fire damage.

INTERVIEWER: Well, did you have any difficulty in securing the tenants that you needed for a new kind of enterprise like this?

REAVES: Very much so. We had difficulty getting tenants because the mall was underway...

INTERVIEWER: The Independence Mall?

REAVES: Independence Mall and the people were leaving downtown and flooding to the mall. It was extremely difficult to get financing and we checked locally as well as out of town.

INTERVIEWER: It would have been from a financing standpoint, a very questionable type of new innovative experience that some of the conservative ones perhaps would not want to take on.

REAVES: It was a new idea in the area and there was nothing in North Carolina like it. So, the lending institutions likely had nothing to base their decisions on and I don't think they experienced our enthusiasm as we hoped they might.

INTERVIEWER: It's strange that you and I are sitting here talking about this here at home and I was on one side of the fence and you were on the other. Tell me then, you began to wrap up leases and began to get people in. Who were your first people who went in? Do you remember?

REAVES: Lowri More came in and occupied a large space in the Sprunt building on the corner of Front and Walnut Streets. The way we handled that was we gave him free rent for x number of years in exchange for them putting up the money to do the renovation for that particular building for their use...

INTERVIEWER: Well that's what I call innovative financing.

REAVES: And our first non-office use was a young Jewish boy who came to me looking for an operation for a restaurant. He wanted to put in a restaurant on the outskirts of town and I said come on down to the Cotton Exchange and look at what we have and he came down and liked what he saw. He opened up the first retail there on Nutt Street.

INTERVIEWER: So, you went right on and made a success out of it and made an example for other people in other cities to come here and see if they might do something like that in their cities. I know you had visitors and people come in to review the Cotton Exchange and it is part of the anchor of the downtown Wilmington that we know today as it has been constituted both for shopping, business, the tourist trade, and historic preservation.

REAVES: Well we were glad to have a part in preserving part of Wilmington.

INTERVIEWER: Well, you did.

REAVES: And in just a few more weeks, it would have been a vacant lot.

INTERVIEWER: Okay, there is one more area that I want to ask you about and we are going to switch to that now and then we will be about ready to wind up. You have been a part of Wilmington's civic and

business scene for a long time. I know you have been a Kiwanian for a number of decades. When did you become a Kiwanian and what else in Wilmington have you participated in? Briefly run through some of the things that you have been connected with that have been a part of the Wilmington scene?

REAVES: Well, I've been in the Kiwanis for 40 years. I was the president of the club back in 1964.

INTERVIEWER: Yes.

REAVES: I had the privilege of serving six years on the Board of Health and that was a wonderful experience. At that time, the Board of Health was in an old building right behind People's Savings on 4th Street between Market and Princess. Remember?

INTERVIEWER: That's right, the little brick building there.

REAVES: The little brick building and while I was on that board, the new building on South 17th Street next to the hospital was built and we moved out there.

INTERVIEWER: Was that when Dr. Knox was there?

REAVES: Dr. Knox was the head of it and a wonderful guy.

INTERVIEWER: Yes.

REAVES: He was both a wonderful doctor and a wonderful guy to head up the Board of Health.

INTERVIEWER: Well, I'm sure you're part of the movement that started the realtors and what the real estate board grew into, didn't you?

REAVES: Yes. We had a very small organization when I first joined the Board of Realtors and I was president there in the mid-sixties and later on I was president of the Home Builders Association here in New Hanover County. I had the privilege of serving in DARE, which was the Downtown Area Revitalization Effort group and the Thalian Commission, which looked after the facilities there at Thalian Hall.

INTERVIEWER: That's quite a varied group. You built two houses in the downtown area that I like. The ones that have the wooden staircases out front on 3rd Street. I always did like those.

REAVES: Actually there are six houses there. There are two facing 3rd Street and four facing Nun Street.

INTERVIEWER: Well, you know, I had known those on Nun, but I never had associated you with them. I only had associated you with the two that faced on 3rd Street.

REAVES: Yes, we had to build those three stories in order to make the skyline, the roof line blend with the neighborhood. On Nun Street, the houses were lower in height and we built only two story there.

INTERVIEWER: Well...

REAVES: It has been great living in Wilmington and I think it is the finest place yet to live. There are wonderful, wonderful people here and good friends.

INTERVIEWER: It has been enjoyable for both of us and now we go out on the golf course and try to knock each other in the head for fifty cents, and have trouble sometimes, doing that.

REAVES: That's right, we are lucky if we get a dime out of it, aren't we?

INTERVIEWER: Well Joe, I think that would be a good note to end on and I would like to thank you for coming out, talking with us, and adding your experiences and some of the things that you have. You were telling me about some things that I have been here all the time that I didn't know about and that's great. So, thanks a million for coming out and I think with that we will close out this interview.

REAVES: Thank you very much.