

Pam Hoyt - Summary

Side 1

Athletics
Leadership and combat
Women in war
Raising of children compared to training soldiers
Husband playing the part of mother
Military life in Germany and Alabama
Moving to Washington
Differences between sexes in military
College - meeting Bruce
Marriage
Raising children to be responsible adults
Thoughts on gun control

Side 2

Gun control continued
Voting
Thoughts on presidential election
Media coverage of election and war
Siblings
Parents' background
Future options

Pamela Hoyt is a captain in the United States Army. Her husband is Bruce. They have three children, all sons. Hubbard is five years old, Ben and Tom are twins and are two. Pam was born in Michigan. Her family moved several times and finally settled in Vermont, where she attended the University of Vermont. While in college she earned a Bachelor's Degree in History, focusing on the History of Russia. This is also where she met her future husband. At the time, Bruce was a graduate working in the Chemistry lab. He obtained a job working for IBM.

Pam had joined the Army Reserves in order to get money for college. Her father had recently bought his first car dealership, and the family did not have much money. After college, Pam and Bruce got married. She also joined the regular army, asking for a chance to remain in Vermont to get the marriage together. Seven months later, Bruce had to leave IBM so that they could move to Germany. Pam was now stationed in Frankfurt. Hubbard was born in Frankfurt. The possibility of returning to Vermont for the birth was considered, but they elected to remain. Hubbard now has dual citizenship with Germany and the United States. If he returns to Germany after turning 18, he will be required to serve in their military or do social work. He will also probably be required to renounce one of those citizenships.

Bruce was quick to take the normal position of a military officer's spouse. He joined the Wives Club and it became the Spouses Club. He was the one to stay home and raise Hubbard, until he got a job teaching at the American school in Frankfurt. Whenever Pam's assignment would change, Bruce would be required to quit his current job and he would stay with Hubbard in the new house, until he acquired a new job.

The twins were born at Fort McClellan, where the family is currently stationed, and were taken to Vermont to be christened. Bruce has remained active in his role as father and military husband and is also working with a

water bottling company. The family is now preparing for another move. This time they are going to be stationed in Washington, D.C. Part of this time, Bruce and the boys will remain in the District of Columbia while Pam is in Kansas. The purpose of this assignment is for a study that will report on the future role of the Military Police. Pam is, herself, a military policewoman. She expects to be stationed at Fort McClellan again in the future, as it is the location of the major Military Police school. She trains those who will follow in her footsteps.

When she is training women, Pam is harder on them, to make sure that they are ready to face tough challenges that their male counterparts will not face. She knows that females are still a minority in the army and that they are required to prove themselves more than males are. She has experienced many superiors that expected her to be less of a soldier than a man would be.

Pam attributes much of her success to athletics. As a child, she was the first girl to play Little League softball in her Michigan town. Her father had to go to the city council to get her on the team. There was some resentment shown her by the boys and their fathers, but she also found support. The team did well, as did she.

Pam remained in sports through high school. She participated in, among others, ice hockey and running. Running, in particular, gave her a discipline that has been immensely helpful in her career. Before deciding upon the University of Vermont and the Army Reserves, Pam was offered a running scholarship to another school. Her reasons for turning this offer down included her desire to join the military and a lack of desire to spend the next four years on a track. She did not hang up her running shoes forever, however. She occasionally runs marathons, including one in Washington, D.C. just a few weeks ago.

Team sports that she participated in taught Pam how to work well with other people. They taught her flexibility. She suggests that a background in team sports is extremely helpful to anyone who wants a career in the military.

Pam's military career was originally to last three years. At the end of that time, however, she and Bruce decided to continue that path until she is ready to retire. Of all the places the family has lived, only Vermont is home. After retirement, they plan to settle in that small New England state where the rest of the family lives. Their future is, of course, unwritten, but Pam expects that she will always be a teacher at heart.

Hubbard, Ben and Tom will be put through public schools because both Pam and Bruce believe that the best way to improve schools is through participation. Bruce will, once again, take a role that is traditionally for women and participate in the parent-teacher organization. They will both be there to try to make the school work for them. They also have a firm belief in the importance of higher education. All of the children will go to college.

Which college the boys go to will be determined by their choice, and the availability of funds. Their courses of study and careers will be determined by choice. Pam is trying to raise children who are colorblind to skin, not sexist, and productive members of society. If she succeeds at this, she will feel successful at life. Her greatest accomplishment to date is the raising of three healthy, intelligent children. This also relates to her training of soldiers. Her trainees are, in many ways, like her children. Any success they have later on is a success for herself.

Pam Hoyt feels that she is ready for combat and so are her soldiers. She knew when she joined the army that she would have to prepare for any eventuality. She has to make sure, if she goes off to war, that her family is as well prepared as she is. Bruce is given power of attorney and wills and insurance are checked and updated. Pam feels that women can be as efficient in combat as men. The battlefields of today have ^{no} specific front where all action takes place. With missiles, the front can be anywhere. During the recent Persian Gulf War, fighting took place in all the surrounding areas. Even though the army does not allow

women in combat, it came about anyway, and the women present showed that they could handle it well.

There is apparently a difference between women in the army and men in the army. Men often sign up right out of high school and don't know what they want to do with their lives. Women, on the other hand, usually have some higher education, average 20 years of age, and have a strong sense of where they are going to take their lives. Female recruits also are more likely to have been abused previously. It is often quite a task to give them the confidence they will need to succeed. Pam attributes some of this to the lack of athletics in most of their backgrounds. While boys and young men are testing themselves on playing fields, girls and young women are not learning their capabilities, improving their endurance, or learning flexibility.

Pam has two siblings, both of whom have strong personalities. Her sister is the top salesperson with her chemical company in her region of the nation. Her brother is following somewhat in the footsteps of his father, working with cars and making his successes quickly. There is a strong tradition of higher education in her family. Both of her siblings, and herself, have degrees, as do many of her ancestors. Traditionally, the women in her family have attended Smith College, and married during their time there. Pam's mother missed her final semester at Smith College due to the fact that she got married and did not continue. Her mother has held jobs, but she is not a career woman. She is always ready to help any of her children with a move, living with them for a short while until they get everything straightened out.

Pam has a strong sense of duty to her country. Not only does she serve the army, she also votes regularly. She votes in all of the Vermont elections by absentee ballot. She has voted since she was 18 years old, and is often the voting officer for her unit. She sees voting as a way to make change. President Bush lost his re-election bid because everyone was dissatisfied with the results

of his term. Ross Perot, she believes, played the normal role of an independent candidate, providing a look at the issues that Republicans and Democrats both tried to avoid. Bill Clinton will have to show his mettle in his first one hundred days after inauguration. He must show the country that he can co-operate with the Congress and get them to return the favor. If he fails in this, he will presumably be ousted in the same manner as George Bush.

The media, Pam seems to believe, behaved poorly in the election. They spent their efforts in an attempt to start a fight between the candidates. During the Gulf War, however, Norman Schwarzkopf handled the media well in his press conferences. They did occasionally get out of hand, though, showing too much that might jeopardise national security.

Pam does not believe in the private ownership of handguns. Hunting is acceptable but handguns are made only for the purpose of killing people. To control rifles and shotguns there should be a central computer on which everyone is listed. Gunshop owners should be required to check up on every buyer and there should always be a two day waiting period. Any store-owner who violates these policies should be put out of business immediately.

*You write well.
He poses needs
some focus near
the end. The last
two paragraphs
seen & just tag
on edited interesting
info. a conclusion
would help. use
some B
words*


Oral History Tape Recording Release Agreement

I, Pam Hoyt, hereby give and grant my tape recordings and their contents to Dr. Suzanne Marshall, Assistant Professor of History Jacksonville State University, and authorize her to make them available for scholarly research purposes.

INTERVIEWEE Pam Hoyt ADDRESS 3330 B Avery Dr. Ft. Mcclerlow
AL 36205
INTERVIEWER Jain Abernathy
DATE OF INTERVIEW 11/14/92
NUMBER OF TAPES 1

DATE OF AGREEMENT 11/14/92

SIGNATURE OF INTERVIEWEE/DONOR



In Abernathy

INTERVIEWEE BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Name: Pam Hoyt M/F Female
Address: 3330 B Avery Dr., Ft. McClellan, AL 36205
Phone number(s): 820-2516
Approximate age or date of birth: _____
Mother's Name: Patricia Reganall
Father's Name: Wayne Reganall
Places lived and when: Michigan, Vermont, Germany, Alabama
Education: BA & 1/2 to Masters
Religion: Episcopalian
Business, political and social memberships (past and present) _____
AUSA, MP Reg. Assoc.
Present occupation: Captain, U.S. Army
Former occupations: None
Special Skills: _____
Major Accomplishments: Company Cdr., Raising three healthy children
National Events in which interviewee has participated: _____
Local Events in which interviewee has participated: Vote Registration
National born U.S. citizen? Yes No
Naturalized Citizen: Yes No Date: _____
Country from which he/she emigrated: _____
Documents, photographs, and artifacts which are in the possession of the interviewee: _____
Individuals recommended by the interviewee who might be candidates for an oral history interview: _____
Additional information: _____