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Sell, Paul Stuart, Collection

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INTRODUCTION

Dr. Paul Stuart Sell was a longtime dentist, practicing in Independence, Kansas, and an avid musician. This collection of materials includes photographs, sheet music, songs and song books he used to play at events, and miscellaneous artifacts.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Dr. Paul Stuart Sell was born February 18, 1927, in Pittsburg, Kansas, to Paul L. and Wilma Lee (Stuart) Sell. The family lived in Girard, Kansas, and Paul graduated from Girard High School in 1944. His father owned a longtime business in Pittsburg, Sell and Son. Sell served in the U.S. Navy and was discharged in 1946. He attended Kansas State Teachers College (now Pittsburg State University) and received a Bachelor of Science degree with a major in Biology in 1949.

Sell married Betty Jeanne Zurek on December 21, 1949 and they had two children, Paula and Steven. He later attended the School of Dentistry at the University of Missouri, Kansas City and graduated with a DDS degree in 1953. The Sell’s moved to Independence, Kansas, the same year so Paul could begin his dental practice. Dr. Sell remained in his business for 39 years, retiring in 1992.

Dr. Sell was a noted musician. He and Dr. George Jones formed “Somethin’ Jones and the Redcoats” in 1968 with Paul as pianist and on clarinet. Other musical groups he was involved in through the years included: Ye Olde Big Dance Band, Vintage Swing, Paradox Duo with George Jones, and as a pianist for the First Presbyterian Church Praise Band, Independence.

Dr. Paul Sell passed away June 24, 2014.

DONOR INFORMATION

Unknown

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The materials in the Paul Sell Collection are incomplete, but we can gather a few things about Sell. The collection is divided into three series: Photographs, Music and Miscellaneous.

The Photographs series contains photographs of Paul Sell at various stages of his life, and of his father, John Sell. There are photographs of his store, Cherryvale, and the Girard Fire Department.

The Music series includes 11 pieces of sheet music that he wrote and he added onto an already existing song. There are 16 different song lyrics by him and a program that told him where to play during certain events and what songs to play. There is a song book that has some of his works in it and five different Christmas Carol books. There are two copies of a hymn book.

The Miscellaneous series consists of two letters, one to Sell and one to Ray Fennimore, a flyer of a Christian education program, a copy of Jack Horner (most likely written by Sell or one of his sons), and a piece of paper from Sell and Son.
FOLDER LIST

Photographs Series
f. 1 Three photos of Paul Sell
f. 2 Sell and Son; John Sell; Cherryvale (1887)
f. 3 Sell playing at an event; sheet music; photo of stove; Girard Fire Department

Music Series
f. 4 Sheet music written by Sell
f. 5 Lyrics by Sell
f. 6 Songs that Sell played at events
f. 7 Song book (2x)
f. 8 Christmas Carol book (5x)
f. 9 Best – Loved Hymns (2x)

Miscellaneous Series
f. 10 A letter to Sell; a letter to Ray Fennimore; a flyer for a Christian education program; a copy of Jack Horner; piece of paper from Sell and Son.