

Pittsburg State University

Pittsburg State University Digital Commons

Finding Aids

Special Collections & University Archives

10-18-2021

Voss, Ralph F., collection, 1986-1995

Special Collections, Leonard H. Axe Library

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.pittstate.edu/fa>



Part of the [Arts and Humanities Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Special Collections, Leonard H. Axe Library, "Voss, Ralph F., collection, 1986-1995" (2021). *Finding Aids*. 328.

<https://digitalcommons.pittstate.edu/fa/328>

This Finding Aid is brought to you for free and open access by the Special Collections & University Archives at Pittsburg State University Digital Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in Finding Aids by an authorized administrator of Pittsburg State University Digital Commons. For more information, please contact digitalcommons@pittstate.edu.

Voss, Ralph F., Manuscript, MS 332

The Ralph F. Voss Manuscript

Collection Number	MS 332
Title	Ralph F. Voss Manuscript
Repository	Pittsburg State University, Special Collections & University Archives, Pittsburg, Kansas 1701 S. Broadway Pittsburg, Kansas 66762 (620) 235-4883 speccoll@pittstate.edu
Dates	1986-1995
Collection Size	.4 linear feet
Creator	Ralph F. Voss
Scope and Content	A manuscript of Ralph F. Voss's novel <i>A Life of William Inge: The Strains of Triumph</i> (University Press of Kansas, 1989).
Access Restrictions	This collection is open for access. Researchers must use the collection in accordance with the policies of the Special Collections & University Archives, Leonard H. Axe Library, Pittsburg State University.
Languages	English
Biographical Note	Ralph F. Voss, a Kansas native who grew up watching the films based on Inge's plays, is a former professor of English at the University of Alabama. He also taught at the University of Texas, East Texas State University, Atlanta Junior College, and was a visiting professor of the University of Utah. Voss's other books include <i>Truman Capote and the Legacy of 'In Cold Blood,'</i> and <i>Magical Muse: Millennial Essays on Tennessee Williams</i> .

William Inge (1913-1973) was a playwright, screenwriter, and novelist known as the "Playwright of the Midwest." Born in Independence, Kansas, he attended Independence Community College and graduated from the University of Kansas in 1935 with a Bachelor of Arts in Speech and Drama. Inge worked as a laborer on state highways, as a Wichita news announcer, and taught English and drama at Cherokee County Community High School in Columbus, Kansas. He completed his Master of Arts degree at George Peabody College for Teachers, in Nashville, Tennessee in 1938, and taught at Stephens College in Columbia, Missouri until 1943. Following that teaching job, he became a drama critic and later began

Voss, Ralph F., Manuscript, MS 332

writing plays. These include *Come Back, Little Sheba* (1950), *Picnic* (1953), and *Bus Stop* (1955). *Picnic* won Inge a Pulitzer Prize. His screenplay for the 1961 film, *Splendor in the Grass*, won him an Academy Award. Inge also wrote screenplays for television, and two novels set in Freedom, Kansas, a fictional town. Near the end of his life, Inge taught playwrighting at the University of California.

Processing Note

Papers processed in December 2020

Content Description

A manuscript draft for Ralph F. Voss' novel *A Life of William Inge: The Strains of Triumph* (1989). 473 pages.