

Oral History

Amy, Dale and Justin

July 6, 2020

Justin: How are you guys doing today?

Dale: Hi, how are you doing?

Justin: Pretty good. You guys have a good weekend?

Dale: Yeah. How about you?

Justin: It was pretty good. I worked most of the weekend, but I still got a lot of stuff done and I didn't get a chance to catch the fireworks, but I got to see a couple in my neighborhood. It wasn't a total bust, I guess.

Dale: That's not so bad.

Justin: Did you guys get to see any fireworks where you live at, from your house?

Amy: I see a little bit of it next door. They really have some big ones going off. It was about 10:30, but that was it.

Justin: Ok, that's cool.

Amy: Yeah. We had a good weekend. Good good good.

Justin: They park where I work picked up a little bit more than what I've been seeing because of the holiday, so it was nice to have a day where we were a bit busier than normal. So, it was good.

Amy: uh huh. And they stayed there distance according to whatever the park wanted to.

Justin: Mhmm

Amy: Ah huhh.

Justin: Uh huh, we have some gathering size suggestions that they worked with and stuff like that. So it wasn't problematic at all. Everyone was pretty respectful of it. So it was a good day.

Amy: Good, I'm glad they respected that. That sounds great, yes. So, how's school going?

Justin: It's still going.

Amy: It's still going, ok. Our grandson still can't decide what he wants to do. They went down to visit the campus on the weekend. They could just, you know, could not get into any of the buildings, but they could, you know, see the campus, anyway. See what's going on and that city down there. That's it. He just turned 18, what do you think? Got any good suggestions?

Justin: No

Amy: He's a little bit mixed up, I know you went through that, too. I'm sure you did at that age. You just can't suggest maybe he would work a year and see what goes on.

Justin: Yeah, and a lot of people do that. And you know what, one of the good things about that is, a lot of people can absorb some really good habits from work that you can carry over in how you conduct stuff at school and how you prioritize you stuff. That's not a bad thing by any means.

Amy: I know, I don't think so, either. And I think it would be a good idea for him because this it he's just uhm undecided and his parents are struggling with it and wanting to know what to...you know, try to encourage him. But he's not committing to anything right now. So it's, well I said he's only 18, he just turned 18, so encourage work for a while. You know. He is working and he enjoys it, you know. Something different or if he still likes doing what he's doing, let him work.

Justin: Yeah. Where did you say he was going to school? Did you say Ohio?

Amy: No, it's Ames, Iowa. Yeah, they went down there the weekend and looked it over. He still wasn't quite being positive about anything. They were just wondering, you know, what to do. I said, well see what he wants to do. He has to make that incentive himself, if he wants to.

Justin: Yeah, because it's something you have to want to do. If you don't want to do it, you're not really going to put the right kind of effort into it. So, yeah, that's a really good idea.

Amy: Yeah, that's what I felt like, too. You know. He's just not doing what he should be doing and dragging his feet. And maybe it will be better, you know. You had the incentive to work for a little while and then you became, got into college, and that's wonderful.

Justin: I don't recommend waiting as long as I did.

Amy: No, ok. Don't wait that long. Just work, right?

Justin: Don't wait until you're 34. You can try a little earlier. But it always will be there, and if you need to figure out what you need to do before that, nothing wrong with that at all. Nothing wrong with that all to take a different path. You know...you got to do your own thing and make it work as best as it's gonna work for you.

Amy: Right. Definitely have to do what you need to do at the time that it needs to be done. But you worked...where did you work at before you manager of something before you...

Justin: I worked at Walmart for 16 years. I spent most of that time in some kind of supervisor role and the last four years as an assistant manager at a store in Hartwell, Georgia.

Amy: Ok, yeah. I'm sure you learned a lot in that situation, so that's good.

Justin: I definitely would agree that a lot of what I picked up as far as time management skills and all that, I really would attribute my success in college to the things I learned while I was working.

Amy: Well, that's great. I'm glad to hear that. Did you have a lot of them at the park yesterday and Saturday? Did you work all weekend?

Justin: Yes ma'am, it was busier Saturday...Sunday was a little bit slower. I would say...they just opened our beach this past week and there was maybe at the most, maybe 20, 25 people tops

out there. But most of the day it was maybe you know, between 10 and 15. Everybody was really good about dealing with the social distancing. We were really impressed. It was our first weekend to see how it was gonna work out and it wasn't bad at all.

Amy: Oh, good. Yeah, that's good. Did you watch the president as he went over to South Dakota and his message he had Saturday night, or didn't you watch any of that? You said you were working.

Justin: Yeah, I was working until like 9, so I didn't get a chance to see any of that.

Amy: He was pretty positive. It was one of the best speeches I've heard and notes and he could just rattle everything off and didn't stammer or nothing. He was just really prepared for those and it was good. It was good.

Justin: Well good, that's really good to hear.

Amy: Yeah, it was. So we had a good weekend, we did most of our staying homne, but that was good. Keeping away from crowds and things like that. Got to go to church and that as good. Get to see some friends there and some family. Well, not family, but family of the church, yeah.

Justin: Yeah, exactly.

Amy: So other than that, we're doing good. Enjoying this beautiful sun this morning. I don't know what it's going to do the rest of the day.

Justin: Well, we clearly live very far apart because there is no sun in my sky.

Amy: Oh, isn't there? Oh, it's showing beautiful this morning. It's starting to get cloudy now. I think we're supposed to get rain, aren't we?

Justin: Well, here, we're definitely getting rain. It's already sprinkled a little bit. Probably going to get a little bit more down here today. We'll see.

Amy: Uh huh, ok. Yeah. So hopefully we'll get some up here. Yeah. Other than that, we're hanging in there.

Justin: Ok, good. Well, I don't have a whole lot of updates about the medication we talked about. I've been doing a little bit of research this weekend and I think you guys spoke with Kimberly or Kim?

Amy: Yes

Justin: Ok, and she's also looking into stuff. So we'll definitely touch base when we have some definite information about that. We are looking into it. Just wanted to update you and let you know it's in progress to find something to help you guys out.

Amy: Yeah, I know I talked to a lady yesterday. She had some medication she was using you know, for her high blood pressure and they didn't want to spend that much money. She told us just don't change any medication because her...she...they put her on a different one and her blood pressure went up to 360 and she says, need to have that other medication that they continually had her own, but they didn't want to pay for it because it was so expensive. And you know, insurance companies...they I don't think they can do that, can they? I mean, they have to pay for it. Even if it's that much. I don't know if they couldn't afford it or not, but she said and whenever she went off of that, her blood pressure has been going. And her doctor wasn't doing too much about it. So uhm, she wishes she was back on it, the other medication. Because he put her on a different one I guess. I don't know what it was comparative to you know to keep her blood pressure down. I do not know, she just said she suggested that we don't change his medication because of what happened with her because of the price. But I don't know, we'll have to check with the doctor too, and see what he can do about it, too. I don't know if they have any medication that can be comparative to what he is getting to like the insulin, I'm not sure

either what can happen, that's just what I feel from this weekend. She was explaining to me.

We'll see what happens. If you still want to work on it that's fine. I haven't got back with Kim, I think she asked me something and I was supposed to get back with her and something came up and I never did get back to her. Some of the stuff that I was supposed to be and I need to do that today.

Justin: Yeah, and if you would because she is working with us on that. That would kind of key her in and she can follow up with the other stuff we're working with and see if we can help you guys out with that. Yeah, if you guys don't mind, please contact her today so she can get a little further.

Amy: I guess I was doing something else and didn't follow up on it and was sorry about it after.

Justin: Oh no, that's ok. We all know how it is when we get busy, trust me.

Amy: Well you know, I don't like to use that as an excuse. Ended up going to work that Friday afternoon and didn't get back with her and I just...and then just left my mind again completely before that. She changed my schedule and that's kind of hard too. My mind went blank, I'll put it that way, Justin.

Justin: I understand the feeling completely.

Amy: So I need to get back to her, I felt so bad about it after I thought about it and it needed to be done. I need to look over those papers and get them back out again and call her, so. But other than that...But you're still going to school right now with the computer and that kind of thing or do you go to class? Can you go to class?

Justin: Well, everything I'm doing right now is just online for this semester, just doing online classes. I have one regular class and another class that ties into this project that I'm working on

with you. So the internship is another class. In the fall I'll be doing in-person classes again in Gainesville.

Amy: Ah huh, ok. You'll be going to Gainesville and having that, I see. Alright, sounds. I'll try to get back with her today and try to get this paper work out. And you know she wanted to know, you know. Some things on the insulin and the and how many mgs on his blood thinner, you know and different things. So I need to get back with her.

Justin: Definitely get back with her because that way...we definitely want to see what we can do to help you guys out. And you know, that's a lot of the reasons why we're here doing this kind of work to make sure we can help people who need it. It's really important.

Amy: Ok, I'll get back with her as soon as I get off the phone and we will...

Justin: Ok.

Amy: And see what she can do with that. See what she can do with that and appreciate that help that you've done and offered to do. Appreciate that so much. But I will get back with her today and see what she's getting and coming up with, anyway. But once...see what else she needed on that. You're not enjoying sun? The sun just came back out again.

Justin: We're totally overcast here. It's not...I don't think it's going to happen for a while.

Amy: Oh, ok. Do you think you're going to have rain do you think, then?

Justin: I think so. I think it's going to be pretty rainy today.

Amy: yeah, ok. So even happens here, we need it up here. We're asking the lord to sprinkle some rain on our garden and flowers, anyways. Yeah. Other than that, we're doing ok.

Justin: Glad to hear that. Do you have time today to answer another one of these questions for the narrative or do you guys...kind of busy today?

Amy: Yeah, I have time for anything.

Justin: Oh ok, I gotcha. You're always so helpful, I love it. Ok, for today's question that we're going to do—we're just going to do one question today and then we'll do a couple more of them a different day this week if you guys will have time. And that will give me the opportunity to touch base with you again about information we may have about the medication and that will be a really good opportunity.

Amy: Okay, okay.

Justin: Ok, so today's question is going to be: Prior to now, was there a time in your life when everything just seemed to change?

Amy: Uhm, yeah. It was during the time that we had to sell our business and make a move. We moved down from South Dakota to Texas. It was a good change, I felt, in my own heart. And Dale was ready to do it, too. We had these friends that we had who moved down there before we did and contacted them and they said just, yeah, sure come down and they'll help us do anything we needed to do. And that was a change for us. Moving away from family, you know, that we lived around all of our lives, you know. And we would not be with our...well we moved away from our son who was still in South Dakota, also, him and his family. But we moved with our daughter. She came down with us and she was not married, shed just graduated from high school and she wanted to go to trade school to get some education and she did that down there. And it was a change for all of us then. And we made it through, thank goodness. That was our change; a big move from one state to the next from family and from loved ones we were with all the time and we knew we wouldn't be able to see them. And it was during a time we had to...I had to leave my mother because she was living with us at that time and my brother said he would take care of her because she had to be either in a home or our home. So he did for a while and it didn't work out, so she ended up in a home. My daughter and I had to go back and be with her

for a while because she was in this home and thank goodness, Dale's niece through her nephew that she worked at this home and said, "do you want to talk to your mother?" She was very helpful, and I could visit with her on the phone and it was a change. You know, you move from your family...it was a good change for us. Not that we could move from place to place, but it was a good place to move. That's where Dale had found a job and he was retired from that job. And it was good, it was good. He enjoyed it, he loved his job at that time too. It was a good move for all of us at that time. It was a little adjustment for our daughter because she moved away from friends and that kind of thing and had to find new friends and she did. Because she is always outgoing person like her father was. It was good. It was an adjustment, but it was good. But she married a person from Wisconsin and that was...she met through a church friend and they communicated with letters and phone calls and it ended up a good marriage. Thankful for that, also. Because that's what you worry about, your children. See how they adjust through it all. That's one of the things of adjustment, if that's what you wanted to know.

Justin: That's perfect, that's perfect. So how long did this transitional period take, between realizing you were going to have to sell the business, or end that business and move?

Amy: It wasn't...let me see and think. I don't remember. It wasn't too long because he...we didn't have work, you know. And by the time we got everything settled business wise and everything sold, and everything settled as far as the lawyer. WE wanted to make sure we stayed in there until we knew that we had, you know, finances to pay for this stuff because we did and it just didn't need to be going through bankruptcy. Our lawyer was very helpful on that and he said you have the finances to do it. And we only had to pay for one building that we built and we moved down to Texas and we just paid on that and got it all settled. We just didn't have to go through the whole thing, you know, and say hey, we filed for bankruptcy. It's like I told you

when you say you're going through a divorce and you don't go through it. That's how this business transaction was. So it was...we're thankful for what we had. To be able to have the money to pay for the lawyer and all that kind of stuff. It wasn't easy, it wasn't easy at all, trying to action that maybe we would help somebody else out. Maybe we really don't have to go through...you might have things you have you can pay for this kind of stuff, so...and we didn't lose the farm, we sold that. So that was good. Cause we didn't have that involved in the business. After that, it was a challenge, but it was an interesting and rewarding thing to find out we didn't have to go through it. You don't want to go through it when you're a Christian. When you're a Christian, you want to make sure all of your bills are paid. That's what we wanted to have done, so thank the lord for that. Praise god. We had the health and strength and finances to move down to Texas and our friends let us be with them for a little while while we found a place to live and we found this place and we both had jobs, so after that, and just kept on going and kept on going until my transportation was stolen and...I wasn't too far from my work and I had a bicycle and somebody had to steal that from me.

Justin: Oh no.

Amy: Yes. Yes. Yes. I had a bicycle that was stolen from me. But we made it anyway. We got a different kind of bicycle and I got to ride that. My aunt came down and she seen this car they had for sale, so she bought that car for us. We eventually paid her back for that. It all worked out. Thank the lord for how he's keeping us going, keeping us going. But other than that, I think that was the only big adjustment that was hard for us to do, to go through able to say, ok, we had to sell out, you know. And our son was in the business with us, but he was okay with that. He found a job and he became an electrician and it all worked out. Because you hate to leave your children hanging, too. It was good that Kim could go down with us and find a school she would be able to

graduate in and it was in accounting and she enjoyed that. Now she's up in Wisconsin leading a maintenance crew in her church. And the guy says, are you over it all? No she says, I'm not over it all. Some of the decisions she has to make. So it helped her, it helps.

Justin: That's good.

Amy: The other boys, Keith was going to college at the time. He adjusted, and so did our other son, he found a job. Which was very helpful and he's still doing different things today like his dad did. You just use your talents wherever you're called to do your work. For me, I just go with the flow and work wherever I can find a job.

Justin: mmmm, you're very resourceful...I see you guys are very resourceful. That's definitely the picture I'm getting.

Amy: We're very flexible. Even the lady I work for, she says, you're just so easy to with with. You're able to come when I want you to come. I said well, I've been that way all of my life. And I just am able to do that, you know, whenever she wants me to come. I'm thankful for that too, that she can be flexible with me and I can be flexible with her, too. It's been an exciting life, I can say that. It has not been boring, it has been exciting, you know. Until we had to stay in. But we get our little drives in and our little treats in and we forgot what Dale went for a Blizzard the other day and asked what was that Justin said the other day about...I think it was the Georgia...

Justin: The Georgia Mud Fudge.

Amy: Ok, I'll have to write that down. And we just went and ordered our same thing again. It was so funny. What did Justin tell us again?

Justin: I love that you thought about that, I feel good about that.

Amy: Well he did. Then we happened to think about it, you know. He said we'll have to order it next time. I said yes, we need to order it next time. Other than that, we're doing ok. That was the only thing I can think of for an adjustment for us.

Justin: ok, so let's do...you guys want to do another call this week?

Amy: It's up to you. You know, we're...

Justin: Hey, I'm at your mercy so whatever...if you want to talk.

Amy: If you have questions, I'll try to answer them. I think Dale went to the other room, I don't think he's on the line again. He doesn't like to visit for some unknown reason. I don't know. Yeah, that's fine with us if...far as I know we're free all week. Whatever works. I'll try to get back with Kim and see what we can find out about that.

Justin: Ok, I'm going to put you guys down for Wednesday at 9am if that works?

Amy: Ok, that works. I got you down at 9am on Wednesday. Ok. See what Kim and I can come up with, anyway.

Justin: Yeah, and that way I can kind of touch base with you guys again after you've talked to her and maybe we'll have some more information to see if there's something we're going to be able to do. It's not guaranteed, but hopefully it will work out and we can be able to do something and I really am hoping.

Amy: Ok, I'm going to get with her, and we'll visit with you later then, ok, Justin.

Justin: Alright, Amy, you guys have a great day.

Amy: You too, ok. Bye, bye.

Justin: Bye, bye.