

My years at the University of Iowa were at the time of World War II, 1942-1948. The war affected the University in many ways - rationing of food and gasoline, few men on campus (plenty of medical, dental students all in uniform, Navy Preflight) less money for big parties (afternoon tea dances), less faculty. It was at the time more women were going into the work force. The myth was that women went to college to find a husband! We were protected.

Looking back, my wish today is that I had been braver, more self confident. I was afraid to tryout for the Scottish Highlanders although I'd danced the Highland Fling as a young girl - afraid to speak up in class, visit with professors, not feeling smart enough to go into elementary education. I did get a big break.

Because of a shortage of graduate students, the University Preschool under Dr. Ruth Updegraff, needed assistant teachers, a graduate appointment. I was a Pi Beta Phi member and an alumn told me to talk to Dr. Updegraff about the job. I got the job. I was in my second year and then taught part time, went to classes part time through the school year winter and summer. I got a Masters degree in 1948.

In my time, undergraduate girls were required to take P.E. and had to pass swimming test to graduate. I still feel this is important. I also was one of the young women photographed nude for a posture study. I tell that the best thing I learned at the University was how to swim.

I graduated in 1946 with a general psychology major. Afraid to go out in the world to find a job, I married a third year medical student - a mistake! Take your time to marry, find a self-supporting job. I continued to work at the preschool thus getting my Masters degree.

Two of my children graduated from the University. My oldest boy a PhD in anatomy, my daughter in Dental Hygiene. The second son graduated from Upper Iowa and a PhD from the University of Arkansas. My third son graduated from Wartburg College and also recieved a Masters from Michigan State.

I lament today's lack of a true Liberal Arts education. Take advantage of all the University has to offer - art, music, drama, lectures. Get as much culture as possible - and learn to swim!

Lucille Remley Williams/Sunleaf/Strawman