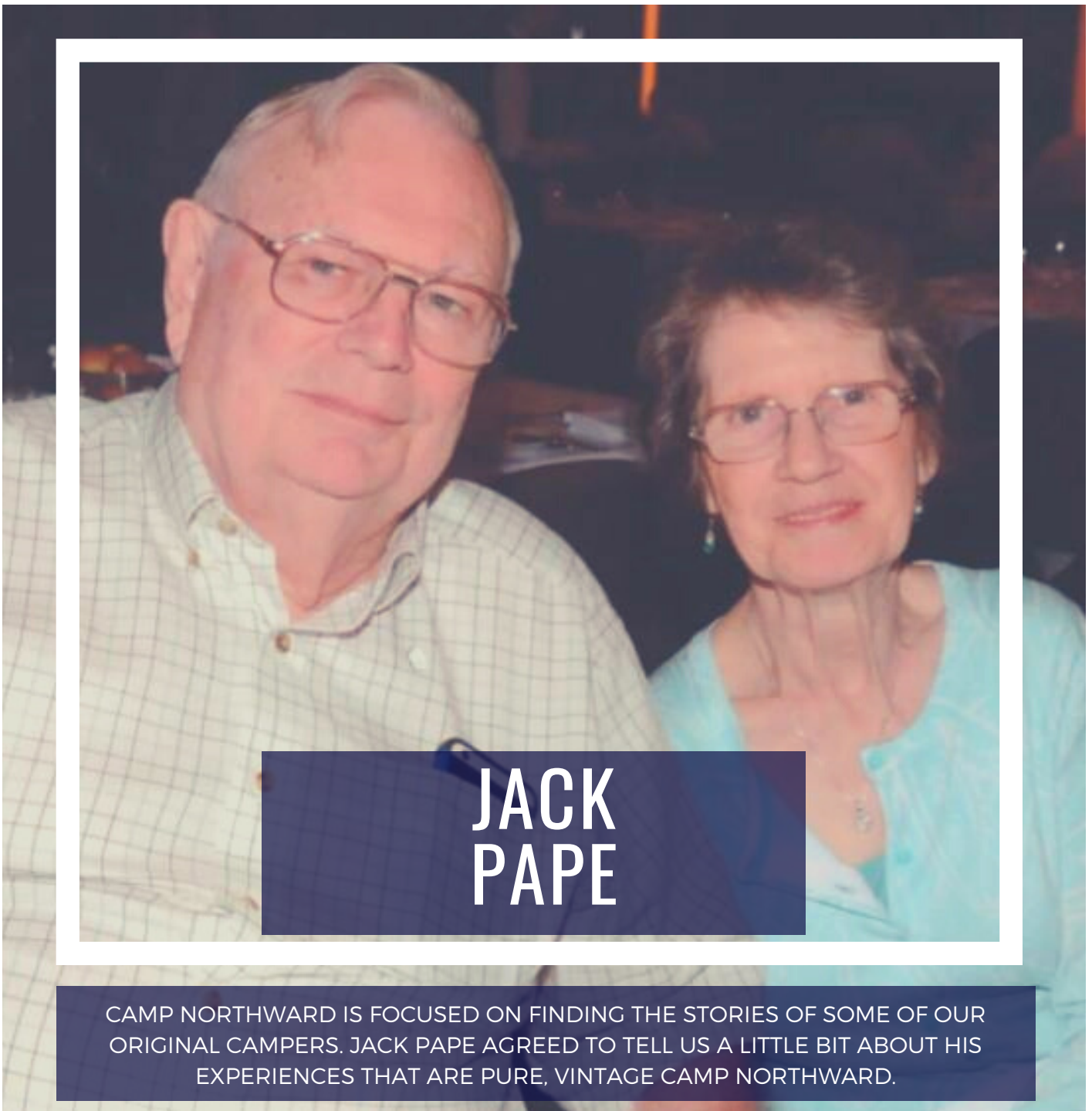


VINTAGE CAMP

AN INTERVIEW SERIES



**JACK
PAPE**

CAMP NORTHWARD IS FOCUSED ON FINDING THE STORIES OF SOME OF OUR ORIGINAL CAMPERS. JACK PAPE AGREED TO TELL US A LITTLE BIT ABOUT HIS EXPERIENCES THAT ARE PURE, VINTAGE CAMP NORTHWARD.

CREEK LIFE

INTERVIEW BY MEGAN COLE

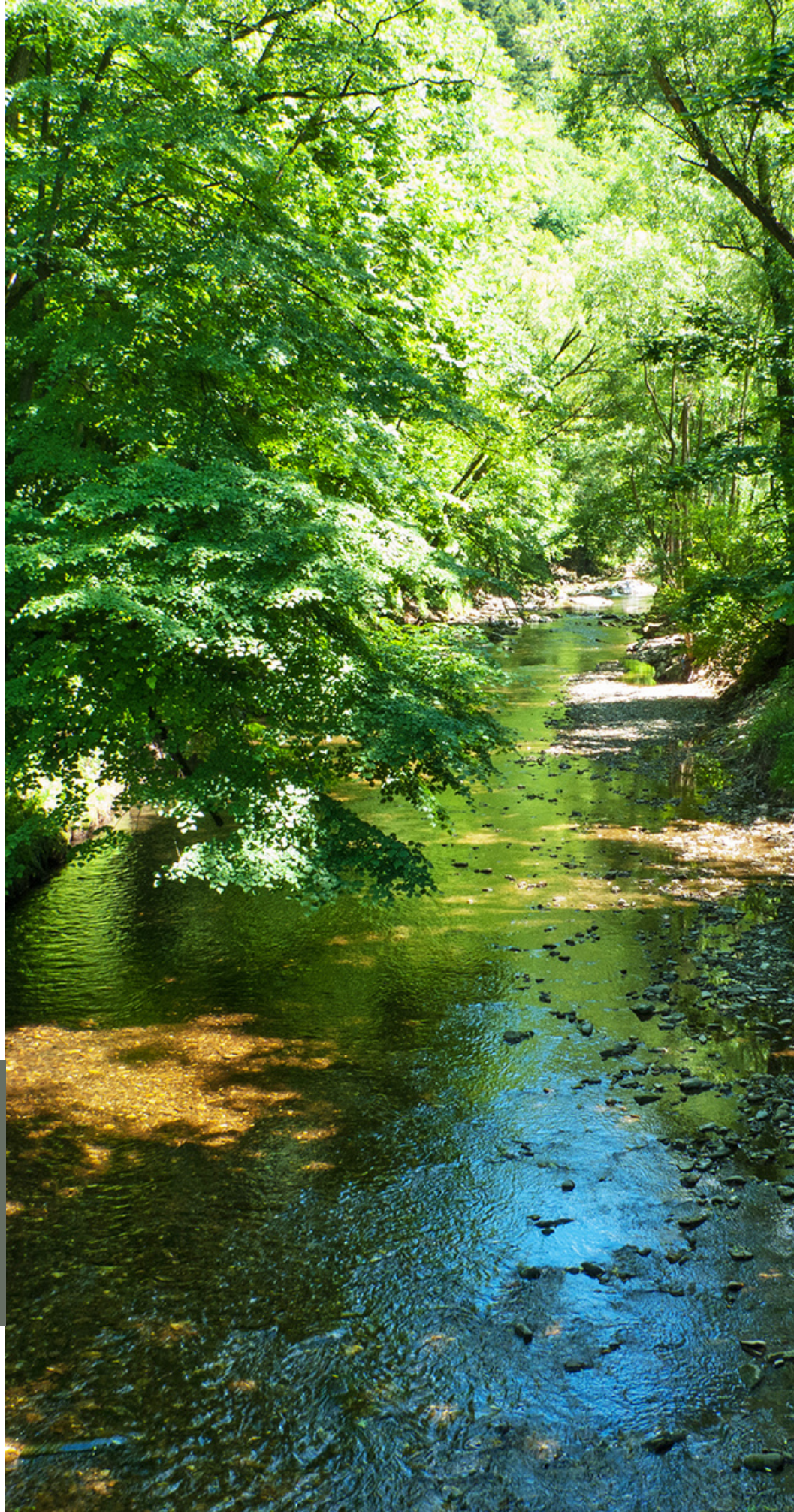
MEGAN: TELL ME ABOUT HOW YOU GOT INVOLVED WITH CAMP NORTHWARD.


Jack: I attended Plum Creek Christian Church as a kid. Stanley Kennedy was the minister at that time. His wife was an Odor. Stanley encouraged people to go to camp. There were several of us who went from Plum Creek at that time, maybe half a dozen. Keep in mind that what I'm recalling is well over 70 years ago. I think I was about 11-12 years old when I attended. I went once or twice.

MEGAN: WHAT DO YOU REMEMBER ABOUT THE FIRST TIME YOU ATTENDED?

Jack: The first thing I can remember is driving down a farm lane. The earliest thing you could see was the boys' dorm, then the dining hall, and then the girls' dorm. They were very rustic.

Our barracks had restrooms, showers, etc. on one end of the building. If you followed the lane in, there was... (cont.)





CREEK LIFE

CONT.

...a general assembly area and a little crick that served as a swimming area. There was a cow pasture where we could play ball. There were several lesson areas with rustic seating. There was no roofing or shelter overhead – it was open-air seating.

Ray Kennedy, Donna Kennedy's husband, said that when he attended the first time there was no boys' dorm and they bunked in the barn.

MEGAN: CAN YOU SHARE ABOUT A TYPICAL DAY AT CAMP WHEN YOU WENT?

Jack: On a typical day at camp, it began when you woke, got cleaned up and lined up outside of the dining hall. You lined up with your team and the team that behaved the best got to go to eat first.

Megan: They still did that when I was at the downtown campus.

Jack: It must be a tradition that carried over.

After that, we would have a quiet time (for meditation) and then you would have classes, which were all Scripture-focused.

The leaders were typically young men who were ministers or in training to be ministers and they did an excellent job.

That would take you up to lunch time. After lunch, there would be recreation, followed by rest time.

One unique thing I remember about quiet time is a big field that was back behind the boys' dorm area. In the field there was a ton of clover, and it was very easy to find four-leaf clovers there. You could find multiple four-leaf clovers in one search. I've never seen anything like that anywhere else.

After rest it was time for supper. After supper there was a general assembly that included evening devotions. They were significant.

MEGAN: IT MADE A BIG DIFFERENCE IN YOUR LIFE, RIGHT?

Jack: Yes. I accepted the Lord there and was also baptized in the creek there. It was a nice-sized pool. It was all very natural.

I loved the experience of camp. The whole thing was a very large teaching and developmental session.

MEGAN: CAN YOU TELL ME A LITTLE BIT ABOUT WORSHIP THEN VS. NOW?

Jack: There was a daily worship assembly. It was the standard music you saw everywhere at the time. We sang camp-themed songs. It was a good experience.

MEGAN: IS THERE ANYTHING ELSE YOU WOULD LIKE US TO KNOW?

Jack: I didn't go to the new camp, but I worked there. There was a picture floating around of Ray Kennedy and I working on the roof of the old T building. We worked on the building some Saturdays. We would use a tractor to move the blocks down for the construction of the building. There was a period when the Kennedy family lived there, if I remember correctly.

MEGAN: VERY COOL. THAT'S ALL I'VE GOT. THANK YOU, GRANDPA.

Author's Note: this interview was the first time I realized that my Grandpa Jack not only made his decision to turn his life over to Christ at Camp Northward, but was baptized there as well. After the interview, my mother, Wendy Peek (Pape) told me she made the same decision and was baptized once she went home. In the early 2000's, my youngest sister Holly Bowen (Peek) also made her decision at camp and was baptized in the chapel, making it a three-generation tradition.