

**Wisconsin Veterans Museum  
Research Center**

Transcript of an  
Oral History Interview with  
**DON WITTE**  
Tech Sergeant, Marine Corps, World War II  
2002

**OH**  
**11**

**Witte, Don (1914-2004)**

Master: 1 video recording (ca. 40 min.); ½ inch, color.

User: 1 audio cassettes (ca. 40 min.); analog, 1 7/8 ips, mono.

**Abstract:**

Don Witte, a native of Mt. Horeb, Wisconsin left the farm at the age of 28 to enlist in the United States Marine Corps. He discusses boot camp in San Diego (California) and his assignment as a supply sergeant (he attained tech sergeant rank) at North Island and Miramar naval air station. In November 1944 Witte was sent to the big Army and Navy supply base on the island of Guam in the Pacific but he first spent three stifling weeks aboard ship off Parry Island waiting for Guam to be cleared of main Japanese resistance. On Guam he dealt in “everything from shoes and clothing to aircraft engines.” Witte describes living conditions there, how they lived in fuel oil-slicked Quonset huts and took shelter from the infrequent high-altitude enemy bomber. With war’s end, Witte returned to the States, was discharged December 12, 1945, and resumed his job as assistant manager at the Singer Machine Company in Madison. Witte explains how his desire to utilize the GI bill led to his involvement in the Korean War. A member of the all-Reservist 7<sup>th</sup> Marines, he cites his presence at Inchon, Wosan, and the Chosin Reservoir. Witte covers the burial detail duty he pulled, and the frozen and perilous march from Koto-ri back to Hagaru-ri. Witte reflects that his Korean War experience made him aware of what he was capable. Granted release from active service by the commanding general, Witte returned to finish his chiropractic education in Iowa and opened a practice in Freeport (Illinois) upon graduation. His enlistment in the Marine Reserves expired in May 1953. Witte later practiced in Brodhead (Wisconsin).

**Biographical Sketch:**

Witte (1914-2004) served as a supply sergeant in the United States Marine Corps during World War II on the island of Guam in the Pacific. He was discharged in December 1945. Enrolled in the Marine Reserves, his service with the 7<sup>th</sup> Marines took him to Inchon, Wosan, and the Chosin Reservoir. His enlistment expired in May 1953.

Interviewed by James McIntosh, 2002

Transcribed by Joshua Goldstein, 2012

Reviewed and corrected by Amanda Axel, 2012

Abstract written by Jeff Javid, 2015

## Interview Transcript

McIntosh: Talking to Don Witte, 7 June, 2002. Where were you born, sir?

Witte: I was born in Mount Horeb, Wisconsin.

McIntosh: When was that?

Witte: July 1, 1914.

McIntosh: And what were you doing when the Japs attacked Pearl Harbor?

Witte: I was riding with my brother and his wife and my wife and myself in the car going to Dodgeville, Wisconsin to see my father in the hospital Dodgeville, from Madison to Dodgeville.

McIntosh: It came over the radio, how did you respond to that? What did you think?

Witte: We didn't have a radio in the car. That was in 1941 and there was no radio in that car and we didn't hear about it till we got to the hospital. We were amazed because none of us at that time knew what Pearl Harbor was. It didn't cut that much ice with us.

McIntosh: You had registered for the draft by then?

Witte: Oh yes, I was already registered for the draft.

McIntosh: Because everybody signed up in 1940 for the draft.

Witte: I think that is when I signed up, but I was living Wausau, Wisconsin, so I was registered in Marathon County, not Dane County. My brother who was with us, he was registered in Dane County and he went in the draft in Dane County.

McIntosh: How did you happen to decide to go to the Marines rather than waiting to be drafted?

Witte: I had a notice already to comply with the draft and I was to report, I don't know exactly, but I think about August the 12<sup>th</sup> and I enlisted August the 8<sup>th</sup> in Milwaukee. I enlisted at the Madison post office here. They had a recruiter on the second floor of the post office here. And there was three of us and they sent us down to Milwaukee. And I was the only one who passed the physical.

McIntosh: How did you decide to enlist rather than wait till you were drafted?

Witte: Well, I just knew a little bit about the Marines and I thought I wanted to be a Marine rather--

McIntosh: Just a grunt.

Witte: Well of course there are a lot of grunts in the Marine Corps, too.

McIntosh: The Marines Corps is more glamorous, ya think?

Witte: Is that why?

McIntosh: I don't know, I'm asking.

Witte: Is it glamorous?

McIntosh: Well, the glamorous uniform and all that and the hoopla about the Marines.

Witte: Well really, the Marine Corps is the Navy's Army.

McIntosh: Right.

Witte: During World War II we had six divisions, the Marine Corps did. I think only four of them were committed to combat.

McIntosh: Where did you go for your basic training?

Witte: San Diego.

McIntosh: How long was that?

Witte: In those days I think it was eleven or twelve weeks. They sent us to Chicago and we met with others there who came down from Milwaukee. We went to Milwaukee to pass the physical, and we assembled a group of about ten or twelve or something like that. And I was put in charge of the group and we went down to Chicago and got on the train and went to San Diego. And I was in charge and had the food for the group and we all had sleepers in the Pullman. We were in a Pullman car.

McIntosh: And then where'd ya go?

Witte: We got to L.A. [Los Angeles], and of course they put us on another train and sent us to San Diego. We got to San Diego I think about three or four

in the morning. Out comes the sergeant and rouses us all up and gets us over to Marine Corps base.

McIntosh: Starts lagging on ya.

Witte: Yeah, that's right, and they took away our clothes.

McIntosh: Cut your hair.

Witte: Yeah, get your shots.

McIntosh: Sure. Was the training difficult?

Witte: Well, I didn't think it was bad, but some of them thought it was. Some of them washed out, they couldn't make it. We had some kids there from California and Texas I think. They came in from all over. They organized a platoon. I think our platoon number was 644, if I remember right. They put a couple of corporals and a buck sergeant in charge of us.

McIntosh: How many were in your little group?

Witte: In the group that came from Chicago? There were only about twelve in that. Then we got we got in a platoon and I think the platoon was about forty.

McIntosh: Then you started drilling and drilling and drilling right?

Witte: On the parade grounds there at the Marine Corps base in San Diego. I got so that I knew every bit of sand on it.

McIntosh: I'll bet, doing push-ups.

Witte: Yeah, that's right. If you misstep or anything, you had more push-ups to do.

McIntosh: Did they feed you well?

Witte: Oh yeah. The food was good, you bet. There was nothing wrong with that.

McIntosh: Well, you got pretty tough in there, hardened to the physical exercise pretty quick I guess?

Witte: Yeah they hardened us up. Well, I was in pretty good shape because see I was already twenty-seven, twenty-eight years old and I played football as a high school lad. And also, my dad was a farmer. I farmed with him some and did a lot of heavy work, so I was in pretty good shape.

McIntosh: Easy stuff for you after working on the farm, gosh! That's hard work.

Witte: That's hauling hay and manure.

McIntosh: You were already in shape by the time you got to boot camp. You must have been way ahead of the other guys.

Witte: No, I wouldn't say that. We had some guys that were real better shape than I was, I think.

McIntosh: And the oldest guy in the barracks?

Witte: Well, I was one of the older ones but there were some there that were my age. And in the Marine Corps later on, I was out of boot camp, they started to accept draftees. See, there were no draftees except for us at that time. It was just enlistees but the recruit sergeant put a lot of pressure on those guys. I think they were able to accept them up to twenty-eight years of age at that time or something. But they got up to around thirty-five or thirty-six; they needed manpower.

McIntosh: What did they teach, what was your specialty in the Marine Corps?

Witte: After boot camp I was sent over to North Island, that's a Marine and Navy aviation base, maybe you've been there. I got into supply and all my life in the Marines I was a supply sergeant.

McIntosh: Right from the start?

Witte: Not from the start; I was a private.

McIntosh: But you're in the supply business?

Witte: I was in the supply game and they formed an organization in North Island, it was called Supply Squadron 5. And we supplied a lot of the material for units overseas. And of course, Marines don't supply much; they have to get it from the Navy. And what we couldn't get from the Navy we purchased in San Diego.

McIntosh: Did you have to travel much?

Witte: No, no, just stayed on the base there at San Diego. Then they built a new air station outside of San Diego called Miramar. I don't know, maybe you heard of it. It is a naval air station. And they built a camp out there and Supply Squadron 5 moved out there. They took care of supplies until the commandant said, "All Marines that have been overseas or going to be

overseas." I hadn't been overseas. I was married, see. I was married in 1941. I was married before I went into the Marine Corps. My wife was already out in San Diego; in fact we had one child. So I said, "I'm going overseas, see". So I took her and our son back to Mount Horeb and went overseas.

McIntosh: Where did they send you?

Witte: Guam. And most of the guys I served with in the States were in Guam too.

McIntosh: What was your setup there? A big base? An air base?

Witte: Sure, we were at the naval air station up on the high ground above Agana.

McIntosh: Most of the guys in your unit then were part of supplies, or were they guarding the air station, or both?

Witte: We had a big supply base up there and I already attained Tech Sergeant rank. I attained that in the States. They had me in charge of picking up aircraft engines from Navy supply for our transport. See, we were a military transport, transporting military personnel and supplies around the Pacific. Our planes would go into Saipan and Tinian and other places with supplies.

McIntosh: Your job was to locate the supplies to put in those planes, then.

Witte: Most of it was getting aircraft engines down at the Navy supply. I got aircraft engines, Pratt & Whitney engines.

McIntosh: How did you get orders to switch orders and so forth?

Witte: You get orders from the flight lines.

McIntosh: It would come to you on a--

Witte: On a requisition.

McIntosh: You'd send that by mail to the airplane company?

Witte: No, no, no, just called motor transport and you get a truck driver and go down to the dock and pick up two or three or four engines.

McIntosh: Oh, they stored them down there?

Witte: Yeah, the navy supply had them down there. See, Guam was a big supply base, Army and Navy both.

McIntosh: So how was duty on Guam?

Witte: Oh it was good. Didn't see anything, just a bomber that went over once or twice. They had us out in the foxholes; it didn't amount to anything, just laden with spiders.

McIntosh: That was your biggest enemy, the spider?

Witte: Yeah.

McIntosh: Did they have any DDT [insecticide] to chase them the spiders away?

Witte: Well there was spray around, I guess, but I never bothered much with it. We lived in Quonset huts, you know. They were screened on each end and then they had folding cots in there. It was a plywood floor, and we used to spread fuel oil or something like that on the floors all the time. We never swept them; they were just full of sand. And that was to keep down the mosquitoes. They had a lot of these alligators on Guam. They were about that long and tail and all. They can stick their tongue out almost the length of their bodies. They'd climb up those screens on the Quonset huts.

McIntosh: About a foot long?

Witte: I'd say about like that and that much of it was tail. But they can stick their tongue out just as long as their tail.

McIntosh: They didn't bother you?

Witte: No, we never had them in the Quonset hut. We kept the screens in good shape.

McIntosh: They probably ate those mosquitoes.

Witte: They probably did, I don't know. There is a lot of coconuts there. I think they set the base up in a coconut grove. Oh, the ground was just covered with coconuts.

McIntosh: Did you eat that meat?

Witte: No, I never bothered with it. Some of the guys ate it, I guess. Those natives would walk right up the tree and pick those coconuts.

McIntosh: So did you get mail from home from your wife on a regular basis?



Witte: Oh sure. I wrote her regularly, she wrote me. I took her back to Wisconsin, when I went overseas. Then I ran into some of my friends who were stationed in San Diego, a good friend and his wife from New York State, Medina, New York. We palled around together, my wife and I and he and his wife. And before he came to Guam they sent him up to Alameda up by San Francisco. They had a Navy base up there, too. Then he went to Guam a little bit before I did. When I got to Guam he had already been there a little while.

McIntosh: How long did you stay in Guam?

Witte: Until the war was over. I got to Guam about, I think November of '43. I was there until we could get transportation back to the States when the war was over after they dropped the atomic bomb. I got back to the States about the twentieth of November, something like that, in '45.

McIntosh: So you are almost two years there?

Witte: About fifteen months, fourteen months, something like that.

McIntosh: Did they have a lot of entertainment come to see you, you know, U.S.O. shows and that sort of thing?

Witte: No, no but we had a lot of movies; in the evening they'd show movies.

McIntosh: Plenty of beer for ya?

Witte: There was beer, most generally there was beer. When we get through working in the office and the flight line and so forth--they call it the post exchange; they called it the slot shoot where the beer was. There was beer there, yeah, can beer.

McIntosh: It wasn't too bad, then; you didn't suffer a great deal, then.

Witte: No, I never suffered.

McIntosh: You had a bombing raid; you said the Japanese came over a couple of times?

Witte: Well, it would be a high altitude bomber, but I don't know if he ever dropped anything. They'd run the siren and chased us out of the Quonset to a couple of trenches there. And we'd lay down there for a while and pretty soon it would be over and we'd go back to bed.

McIntosh: They all came at night?

Witte: I don't recall any in the daytime. There was only about twice all the while I was there. I think they were losing the war and they knew it, I think.

McIntosh: Was the base crowded?

Witte: Yeah, we had a lot of troops around. We had flight personnel. We had a lieutenant colonel in command, he was a pilot. And all of the pilots and crews and maintenance personnel for the aircraft. And of course, I was in supply dealing with everything from shoes and clothing to aircraft engines. We had a captain in command in the supply department. We had a couple of warrant officers, I think a lieutenant or so.

McIntosh: The war didn't change much, did it? It didn't get worse or better. About the same, a constant rotation of people in your guard?

Witte: There was no rotation that I can recall. There were people going back to the States, but very little of that. Most of us got there and stayed there until the war was over. But we had a long time wait to get into Guam. See, the infantry was securing Guam and we were aboard ship out by Perry [Parry?] Island in the Marshall Islands. And it was hotter than blazes, I think it was October or something like that in '43. And it was hotter than blazes and we are three decks down. And of course we had five-high bunks; you couldn't lay on your side because the guy up above would be laying on top of your shoulders if he was a pretty heavy guy. If he was a light fella, it wouldn't bother much. And of course, we laid there I think three weeks waiting for the infantry to secure Guam so we can get in.

McIntosh: A lot of guys sleep on the deck?

Witte: They used to sneak up there once in a while at night. We weren't supposed to be up there.

McIntosh: I know, but it is so damn hot down below.

Witte: Hot is right. And the guy on top, if he gets sick and vomits, you know it just splashes on the floor and-- I was never on the top. I was on the bottom or the second one.

McIntosh: Did you do any flying over there?

Witte: No, I think I went up to Saipan once to pick up some supplies or something, that's all. When I was in Korea, I was aboard planes a little a bit. I was a Reservist called back.

McIntosh: When you finished with the war were you discharged, or did you stay in, or you mentioned the Reserves?

Witte: No, when the war was over I went back to San Diego, of course. They sent us back on ships, you know. I was released on December the 12th of '45. I got back to Mount Horeb on the fifteenth or sixteenth or something like that ready for Christmas. My son was born in '43, so he was two years old.

McIntosh: So then what did you do?

Witte: I was an assistant manager here at the Singer Machine Company. We had a store on State Street, 300 block on State Street. I went back to my job. I started that first of January in '46.

McIntosh: They kept it for ya?

Witte: Yeah.

McIntosh: That was nice.

Witte: It was the law was such. Franklin Roosevelt signed the law; they had to give me a job. They had to, yeah. And of course I couldn't get any housing. My wife was living at the farm. My mother and father-in-law had a farm out in Mount Horeb, and she was living there with our son. I lived there too for a year until they built those apartments at Truax Field. See, they put three apartments in a barracks. And they housed quite a few us out there. So I was out there until January of '49.

McIntosh: You stayed in the Reserves?

Witte: No, I didn't stay in the Reserves.

McIntosh: How'd you get back to Korea?

Witte: Then I resigned from Singer and I wanted to take advantage of the G.I. Bill of Rights and I matriculated at Palmer College of Chiropractic in Davenport, Iowa. I matriculated there on January the 3rd of 1949.

McIntosh: How long was that for?

Witte: Four years.

McIntosh: Then what?

Witte: Well, when I was at Palmer they were starting a Marine Reserve unit on the Rock Island arsenal. Do you know the Quad Cities any?

McIntosh: Yes.

Witte: They were forming a Marine Reserve unit on the arsenal. There were a few of them in it that were students there, former people in the military, mostly sailors and Marines. They didn't have a supply sergeant and the BS goes up and down the hallways and they knew I was a former supply sergeant from World War Two. So they said, "Why don't you come along with us?" Meet once a week, they give you a days pay. One night a week, I think it was. It was an engineering outfit and we had a basement space there out in Rock Island arsenal. By golly, I wasn't in there very long and that Korean conflict started. The whole thing got started and you know where I was?

McIntosh: You just made a mistake. [laughs]

Witte: Yeah, I made a mistake, well, yes and no. I learned a lot in Korea, though. We suffered like hell.

McIntosh: You went in as a G.I. or the Marines? When you went to Korea did the whole unit go?

Witte: That's right. The federal government activated the whole group, the engineering Reserve unit from the Rock Island arsenal in Rock Island, Illinois. They activated the entire group.

McIntosh: As an Army unit?

Witte: No, Marine.

McIntosh: It was a Marine unit.

Witte: Yes.

McIntosh: So they put you back on a ship and sent you to Korea?

Witte: Well, they sent the entire company out to Pendleton, the entire company. We were an engineering company and when we got to Pendleton they disbanded us. We were disbanded as an engineering unit and we became replacements to go to Korea to fill in infantry units and so forth.

McIntosh: What was your rank then?

Witte: I was a tech sergeant.

McIntosh: So what happened?

Witte: Well then of course we were activated the 8th or the 10th of August and we had a little training. Pendleton didn't amount to much at all, a few hikes and so forth; then we were all sent overseas for replacements. I was in on that Inchon invasion on the 21st of September. From the 8th of August to the 21st of September, they got us from Rock Island, Illinois to Korea. And it they gave us a few days of drilling at Pendleton.

McIntosh: What was your job then?

Witte: I was back in supply. I was Headquarters Company, 7th Marine. Homer Litzenberg was our colonel; he was a sharp old boy, though.

McIntosh: So you landed at Inchon?

Witte: Yeah, we did. We got to Kobe, Japan. I think we got over there in six or seven days from San Diego, really, really moved out. We were replacements and in on that Inchon invasion; 1st Marine Regiment spearheaded that but I was in the 7th Marine. We were almost all Reservist. The 1st and the 5th were regulars but I was in the 7th.

McIntosh: So, where did they set you up on Inchon?

Witte: The infantry moved out all the time, you were moving all the time. I never got up to Seoul but we took Seoul. I don't know how long it took; I was only on base there in Inchon maybe for two weeks. We recaptured Seoul and we pulled out. The story was we'd be home by Christmas, the war is won.

McIntosh: Just like World War Two. They said the same thing, then the Chinese changed everybody's mind.

Witte: Well, I think it was a little error on our people militarily, too, because I was in on that Wonsan landing. See we didn't land north of the 38th I think until MacArthur got permission to go north of the 38th. They put the whole 1st Marine Division aboard ship and we were aboard ship I bet you for three weeks or so.

McIntosh: Going around the other side of Korea.

Witte: We went around the southern part of the Peninsula and we sailed north and the day we'd be sailing south. Next morning you get up and the guys are saying, "What the hell is going on? We are going north." Next morning, "We are going south now." **[End of Tape 1, Side A]** They issued heavy parka linings and heavy socks. Boy some of those socks were that thick you know.

McIntosh: I had some.

Witte: You were up in Korea?

McIntosh: Yeah.

Witte: Where were you?

McIntosh: I was on a hospital ship.

Witte: Were ya? Oh God, we really got clobbered up there at the Trojan. And the weather was so bad.

McIntosh: Did you leave Wonsan, or did your outfit stay there?

Witte: No, the whole regiment went on north and Colonel Liztenberg, did you know him?

McIntosh: No.

Witte: He was a great guy to call and critique; he'd call his senior officers and his senior non-coms together. He did say at that time that we are heavily committed. Our orders were to branch out from Wonsan in a pie shape up towards the Yalu and wipe out all remnants of the North Korean forces. That's all it was, North Korea forces, and they issued this heavy clothing and so forth because they knew winter was coming. We drove up there; by golly, I think we drove right into their damn trap.

McIntosh: You went up in a truck?

Witte: I was up at Koto-ri and Yudam-ni and Hagaru-ri.

McIntosh: Up the Chosin Reservoir?

Witte: Yeah, the Chosin Reservoir. We picked up some of the wounded of the 2nd Army. We like to think we got all our dead and wounded out, but I don't if we did or not. I know one radio up there at Koto-ri, a first lieutenant and I buried thirty, thirty-five dead Marines that had been wounded with shrapnel or small arms, mostly with small arms. We had a bulldozer and we dozed a hole there and we took the dog tags off, of course, and their personal effects and wrap them in a blanket and rolled them in a common grave.

McIntosh: That was your job?

Witte: No, but this lieutenant asked me to come along with him so I went along with him. I don't remember what his name was. We had been clobbered--see our command post fell, the 5th and the 7th Marines. It was just a big mob. You must have gotten some of those people aboard ship.

McIntosh: Oh yeah, a lot of them.

Witte: It was a mess. The lieutenant commander of the 2nd Battalion, I guess he was killed; someone was saying he got killed. We lost a lot of people up there, a lot of people. It was so damn cold, it was twenty below.

McIntosh: Tough living up there.

Witte: But I learned a lot.

McIntosh: Oh, what did you learn?

Witte: I learned something about what I can do. When you get up against the wall, you got to do. We didn't get change of clothes for three weeks. Well, you probably took care of a lot of them with frozen feet.

McIntosh: A lot of them.

Witte: Ho-ho-ho. God, we had frozen feet and frozen hands. Well the problem was, you know, the infantry. I wasn't infantry, but the infantry hiking up these mountain ranges to try and get the high ground and their feet would sweat then freeze. Of course, an order came down they all got an extra change of socks. The order came down to take those socks off and put them on your belt. You know about it. Put that pair of socks that have been on your belt all day. Well some of those infantry guys were laying on them, they were in the throw, they were wet. They didn't do much good. It was heavy.

McIntosh: That's a big problem, big problem.

Witte: We lost a lot of people up there.

McIntosh: Oh yeah.

Witte: But I came out of it, I didn't get any wounds of any sort. Pinned down a few times on that march from Koto-ri back to Hagaru-ri. It was at night and man, we were pinned down several times. Chinese came into it; that's where we got into trouble.

McIntosh: Did you leave Korea via Wonsan, then? You left out of Wonsan, too?

Witte: No, we came out of those twin towns, now what were the names of those two towns? Boy I was never so happy in all my life to see the army artillery. It would come down off that mountain range and there were an Army 8-inch—

McIntosh: Pungnam [?]? Pungnam, where you were at? Pungnam?

Witte: Yeah that's right, that's where we came out. I was one of the last ones out of there, I think. I can remember igniting all that stuff, burning it all when they pulled out. You probably saw it, you were probably there.

McIntosh: I was on the other side.

Witte: You were over on the West side of Korea?

McIntosh: When that happened.

Witte: Oh, well this is on the East side of the Peninsula. Then they took us down to Masan. Then we regrouped and got a lot of Reserves from the States, and then we went up to Taegu, Shoran [?], and up to the 38th again, see. I put in a letter to the commanding general requesting a release from active duty to get back to chiropractic college and by golly, the commanding general sent it back in about I don't know five, six days. It released you from active duty, and I went back to Palmer.

McIntosh: When did you finish?

Witte: When I had my four years in, in January of 1953.

McIntosh: And you got out of the Reserves at the same time?

Witte: No, I was still in the Reserves. I couldn't get out. You see, I signed up for a three year hitch, but then they sent my discharge over when I was released. I mean my enlistment had expired, it wasn't a release; my enlistment had expired. And I think that was about May of '53, I think. I had already started practicing chiropractic in Freeport.

McIntosh: Freeport.

Witte: Freeport, Illinois. Are you a Midwesterner?

McIntosh: I've been in Madison all my life.

Witte: Born and raised here?

McIntosh: Born in Edgerton but lived in Madison all my life.



Witte: Oh did ya? Born in Edgerton? Must be Scandihovian [Scandinavian]?

McIntosh: Scotch.

Witte: Scotch? Oh yeah with that name. Sure that name, I recognize that sure. You know where Brodhead is?

McIntosh: Oh sure.

Witte: You probably been there many times?

McIntosh. Well I travel every place in the state.

Witte: Did you practice medicine for a while?

McIntosh: Thirty-three years.

Witte: Where did you practice?

McIntosh: Madison.

Witte: Oh did ya? What, a general practice?

McIntosh: Urology, people plumbing.

Witte: Yeah, that's right. My son is a physician. He is also a PhD and he practices pathology.

McIntosh: Where is he?

Witte: He is in Ottumwa, Iowa. I just saw him; his daughter got married. I was the only grand-person there. I was the only one. I danced with the bride. She's twenty-nine already. He's got two children, a boy and a girl. He got his M.D. at University of Iowa but got his PhD at Iowa State in biochemistry. He likes Iowa.

McIntosh: Did you join any veterans groups after you got out of the reserves?

Witte: Yeah, one of my patients talked me into becoming a Legionnaire when I was in Freeport so I became a Legionnaire. Then when I was licensed in Wisconsin too, so I came up here. I was going to go to Stoughton but I couldn't find a place to set my office up. It was a funny time. The Korean War was still on, no property for sale and my brother-in-law wanted to build a new house. They wanted to sell me the house he had and so I bought that.

McIntosh: In Brodhead?

Witte: It is in Brodhead, yeah; so I bought that. I bought that in 1954 and I lived there ever since.

McIntosh: Have you kept track of any of the guys that were in the Marine Corps with you?

Witte: Oh yes I have corresponded with some with these people from New York, but they sold their home. They had a home in Medina, New York, they sold that, retired and moved to Florida, and I lost track of them. But I've been to see them in Medina, New York, and they have come to see us in Brodhead, too. That's the only one.

McIntosh: Okay, well that's about it, I think we covered it.

Witte: Think I incriminated myself?

McIntosh: I won't tell.

Witte: You won't tell?

McIntosh: No.

Witte: You don't have to tell, it's all on tape.

McIntosh: Right. That's very good.

**[End of Interview]**