BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- From Detroit, Michigan
- Favorite Place to Visit: Gross Morne National Park:
- Loves traveling, hiking, contra dancing, photography, playing the dulcimer, listening to music specifically blue grass/old time folk
- Independent
- Great at telling stories
YEARS BEFORE COLLEGE

- J.L Hudson's
- Army at the age of 19 and was in the army for 2 years
- First night in the dessert
• Undergrad Student - at Wayne State University
  • While working at Ford Motor Company
  • Back and forth between school and work

• Grad Student at Michigan State for 10 years Teaching Assistant for most of that
  Also a Research Assistant at MU Center for Remote Sensing for 2 years
  • Sugar Cane Blight was attacking crops in Dominican Republic
  • Twice taught a 2-week course on Remote Sensing and Air Photo Interpretation in D.R.
  • Had a Spanish interpreter
    Both times when course ended, rented a car for a week and drove around the country
  • Taught a regularly scheduled class for last three years there but was paid as a T.A.
TRAVELS

- Greece
  - Dolphins
- Africa
- Newfoundland
  - Moose
- Nova Scotia
- Canada
- Dominican Republic
- Switzerland
- Montana
- Notre Dame
HAPPIEST WHEN

• In Nature
  • Eating his lunch and appreciating where he was at
YEARS AT MANSFIELD UNIVERSITY

- “ Ended up being the perfect place”
- Likes the students- humble and down to earth
- “ Loves it here and never wants to leave”
  - Perfect for physical geography can go 100 miles and be in a different geomorphic region
- Great sense of community
- Department Chair for quite some time
YEARS AT MANSFIELD CONTINUED

• Robert J. Goodman- Giving Back

• Started Geography Club
  • Very first president of the club got a PhD. In geography and served in the Peace Corps in Central America

• Took many students on many trips
  • Pictures on slides
LESSON LEARNED
FROM RUSS

• Gratitude is one of the greatest feelings one can have
• “Rather feel dumb for a minute than be dumb for the rest of my life”
• Tourists have a herd instinct
• Follow your heart
• Taught me how to contra dance and play the dulcimer
  • Dulcimer like a guitar, but sits on your lap. Easy to learn. Only took one hour to learn 2 songs.
  • Contra dancing Cornell University- similar to square dancing. Bigger groups. Always rotating, many different dances.
THANK YOU RUSS

• Thank you for all the time you spent with me last semester and thank you for everything you have done for Mansfield and Geosciences department!