

Interviews of the Margaret MacVicar Memorial AMITA Oral History Project, MC 356

Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Institute Archives and Special Collections

Genevieve Ubel – class of 1954

Interviewed by Madeleine Kline, class of 2020

November 10, 2017

Margaret MacVicar Memorial AMITA Oral History Project

Genevieve (Gix) Ubel (SB Management '54) was interviewed on November 10, 2017 by Madeleine Kline (SB Chemistry and Biology '20) at Ubel's home in St. Paul, Minnesota. After working as an engineer for Montgomery Ward and while raising four children, Ubel was a tutor and teacher. She primarily helped students with learning disabilities such as dyslexia. Ubel's father, Pierre F. Lavedan, graduated from MIT in 1920 with a degree in Chemical Engineering, and one of her sons, Andrew Ubel, graduated in 1981, also with a degree in Chemical Engineering.

KLINE: Because your dad went to MIT, I'd love to hear a little bit about growing up: what influences you had, if there was that pressure to excel academically, where you grew up, what your family life was like.

UBEL: I was born in New York. As a child, I lived in the Hartsdale – Scarsdale – suburbs, and I was a middle child of three. I had a father who graduated from MIT in 1920, a mother who I don't think ever went to college. She was a musician. But anyway, influence growing up: I had an older sister who was very close to my mother. And my brother was quite a bit younger. So I was sort of my dad's girl, palled around with him, did all the stuff that he did, followed him, all of that.

KLINE: He majored in chemical engineering?

UBEL: He was a chemical engineer. And when I was a child, his office was on the 32nd floor of the Chrysler Building--

KLINE: Wow.

UBEL: --which was fascinating to go visit when I was a kid. You'd look down, and people looked about an inch ... or the taxi cabs looked about an inch long, that type of thing. We lived there in New York for quite a time. And then I went away to boarding school when I was 12, in Albany, New York. There was a war. I do remember the war.

The Depression, I don't remember. I was too young, and my parents weren't suffering from it anyway. But the war years, I definitely remember very strongly. I remember the day it broke out. I don't remember 1939, when Poland was invaded on the first of September, 1939. And on my birthday, the third of

September, England and France declared war. And I remember my parents just—[SIGHS]—they couldn't believe it, another big, big war coming.

And then I remember Pearl Harbor. That was Sunday, and we were listening to the [New York] Philharmonic. And we always had to listen to the Philharmonic. And they interrupted the orchestra to say they had an announcement, that Pearl Harbor had been bombed. And the moment they spoke, my mother sent us kids out. "Go play. Go outside." She didn't want us to feel that. But you could feel it anyway. I was old enough to be aware of what was going on.

Anyway, passing by quickly on the war years, because I was in boarding school most of the time, we moved to Chicago and we lived in Highland Park, Illinois. I finished high school at The Mothers of the Sacred Heart in Lake Forest, Illinois.

Going to boarding school taught me how to really study; it taught me how to analyze, memorize, concentrate, and put my thoughts and ideas into writing. Then I went to Newton College after that for two years, which is now part of Boston College, another girls' school. So I had been by this time in girls' schools from the seventh grade. And then my father decided I needed to be broadened, so he sent me to France for a year. He was born in France himself. So I went to Paris and spent a year with his family.

KLINE: How old were you at this point?

UBEL: Twenty. It was shortly after the war, in 1950. The devastation in London was incredible. I couldn't believe it. We weren't allowed to get into Germany. You had to have a special visa still to get into Germany and Spain. So I spent most of my time in France with my relatives, but I visited Italy, the Netherlands, Belgium and Switzerland.

And then when I came back, I told my father, "Well, I've made up my mind what I want to do." "Oh," he said. "Well, what is that?" And I said, "Well, I've already made an application and been accepted at Middlebury. I'm going to go there, and I'm going to learn to be a teacher. I want to be a teacher." "Oh, no," he said, "you're not going to be a teacher. You're going to MIT." I said, "MIT? Why would I go to MIT?" [LAUGHS] And he said, "Because I want you to. And I think it's time that you had a more varied experience." [LAUGHS] I don't know quite what he meant by that. So I went to MIT. And going from an all girls' to a practically all boys' school, if you want to call it that, was quite a shock. It really was.

I entered as a sophomore; I lost a couple of years there, see. And the first half-year, I lived with a friend of mine in Charlestown, because there wasn't room in

the women's dorm. In those days, the women's dorm was on Bay State Road and it held 17 girls. I was late to the bargaining table or whatever, so I spent the time with a family in Charlestown, Bunker Hill, and all that. Our house was right there at Bunker Hill.

Anyway, I took the train every day to school. I was able then to get into the women's dorm at the halfway mark. And I enjoyed being there and being on campus. The walk across the bridge was something else in the winter. But we used to get behind the fraternity boys, let them break wind for us, so to speak because it could get cold. [LAUGHS]

I made a lot of good friends and that sort of thing. We were all very companionable. And then I think it was when I entered my junior year, I got an apartment with two other girls. They wanted the juniors and seniors out to make room for the freshmen and sophomores, which makes sense. So I was living in the women's dorm exactly half a year. [LAUGHS] And we got an apartment on-- oh, dear, what's the name? Not Bay-- what's the street that Bay State runs into before it gets to the Charles River?

KLINE: Commonwealth or Beacon Street?

UBEL: Where Sigma Chi is, and all that.

KLINE: That's Beacon Street.

UBEL: Beacon Street. OK, we got an apartment on Beacon Street. That's right. And there were three of us. And I still have kept in touch with one of those gals who had lived there. I lived there for two years.

An interesting little side thing was that one of the gals was a year younger than me. And she had entered MIT at the age of 17, a very mature 17. Her mother had died when she was 11.

KLINE: Oh, my gosh.

UBEL: I've lost track of her in the last few years. But anyway, her father was a communist. And now we're in the middle of the McCarthy era, and all of that. She was a very, very bright gal.

Anyway, she said to each of us, "Give me \$7 a week, and I'll do all the cooking." So that was fine by me. She did. She fed us with all of it and had money left over to make chocolate chip cookies for all the fraternity boys that wanted to come

and join us for an evening, and all that type of thing. It was a lot of fun in that dorm—at that apartment. A very small apartment, one room, and then a little alcove, and we had a bunk bed and a cot. And I got the upper bunk, being the smallest at that point.

Anyway, all we did was study. And then we always did The New York Times Sunday puzzle, as our recreation on Sunday. Anyway, as for the classes, and I'm sure you want to get into that, to know what that was like.

Business interested me much more than pure science. Efficiency in the workplace, marketing-- The women seemed to gravitate to Food Technology, Architecture, Business/Economics and pure sciences. The "formal title" of course 15: I think it was Industrial Engineering: XV.

By and large, I didn't have too many troubles with the professors or the associate professors or whoever was teaching, graduate students, except for one incident. It was in my junior year. I was taking some kind of a marketing course. If I remembered the name of the professor, I wouldn't say it. But suffice it to say, the first day of class, I came in with all the guys. And he came in and he said, "Oh, a coed, huh," in a very sneering way. I didn't make any remarks. I just sat there. And he proceeded to tell a very raunchy joke, at which point, I got up and walked out. And all the guys walked out with me. That taught him a lesson, I think, because the next time, when class came two days later, he apologized. We never had any more problems with him. So I do remember that very distinctly. I was so proud of my male cohorts there that walked out with me.

Another interesting thing that happened that showed you that some professors kind of catered to the girls a little bit more than they would the boys, I came down with measles, regular two-week measles, sicker than a dog. And of course, they wouldn't keep me in the infirmary, because I had a contagious disease. So I was sent to what we called the Boston "Pest House," where all the contagious diseases were. All the kids had had polio, and everything. They were all there. And that's where I spent a couple of weeks.

I missed some classes, including engineering drawing—and I had a big test in engineering drawing. The professor, when I got back, said, "Well, you did very well on the test." I looked at him, and I said, "I just got back. I haven't taken the test yet." "Oh, yeah," he said, "you got a B-plus, A-minus." I said, "I did?" "Well," he said, "I had all the guys put down the grade that they think you deserved, and that's what you came up with." And that's how I got through my engineering drawing class. [LAUGHS] I mean, really, isn't that ridiculous?

So it was a very interesting experience being with the guys all the time, and I certainly enjoyed it. I thought it was a very hard school. I had to be tutored in some of the courses. I had to take some in the summer and I enjoyed that, because that's a six-week course. And each week, you get a test. And then at the end, it's a pass/fail. I didn't care about that.

Then there was the year that I had two boyfriends. And, well, they were both nice. [LAUGHS] I liked both of them. So I was dating both of them, one on Friday night and one on Saturday night, and that sort of thing. And anyway, I didn't do too well that semester. In fact, I almost flunked out. And when I came back after the break, my counselor called me in. He said, "Well, I guess you've been having a good time for yourself." And I said, "Well, yeah, I guess I have." "Well, it's time now," he said, "to settle down." But I almost flunked out on that semester because I was having such a good time.

Anyway, I didn't. I made it through. My father was very, very helpful. He used to write me cheering letters. And he got one of his friends, who also graduated from MIT in 1920, to say that he would give me a brand new car the day I got my degree. That spurred me on immensely. So every time I got tired, and I thought, "Oh, I can't do this anymore," I'd think of that car, and it encouraged me to go on! [LAUGHS]

Anyway, the day of graduation, there it was: a brand new car there for me, a Nash Rambler with a wheel on the back of it, a darling car. And the man who gave it to me, he was there too. I think he was on the [MIT] Corporation board by that time. I can't remember. But anyway, my folks lived down on the Cape by that time.

KLIN: While you were in college during that time?

UBEL: Well, towards the end of my college career, they were down on the Cape. Well, they retired down there. Anyway, I used to take the train up in the summer from Hyannis. My mother would drive me into Hyannis, and I'd take the train, get off at the South Station, I guess it was, take the Metro all the way out to MIT.

But you see, I could study on the train. I could study a little bit on the Metro. And then I'd go back afterwards on the same path. Again, I could study all the way back down to the Cape. I got a lot more studying done that way than I did when I was with the girls in the back room. [LAUGHS] Are you in the dorm?

KLIN: I am in the dorm, yeah.

UBEL: The ladies' dorm?

KLINE: It's a coed dorm.

UBEL: Oh, a coed dorm.

KLINE: Yeah, there's one dorm that's all-female. But the rest of them are mixed.

UBEL: And what's the percentage of male to female, and so forth?

KLINE: I think right now it's about 46% female.

UBEL: Really?

KLINE: 46% women, 54% men.

UBEL: That's incredible!

KLINE: Yeah. [LAUGHS]

UBEL: There were 10 girls in my graduating class and 750 men.

KLINE: Wow.

UBEL: A little different percentage.

KLINE: That's hard to even think about.

UBEL: But at our 50th reunion, seven of the girls were there. I should say women, but anyway, seven of the women were there for the 50th anniversary.

KLINE: And there were no sororities when you were there, right?

UBEL: Oh, no, uh-uh. We were honorary members of some of the fraternities. [LAUGHS] You know how that is. Do they have sororities now?

KLINE: Yeah.

UBEL: Pretty good.

KLINE: Yeah, interesting. [LAUGHS] And so you were Course 15?

UBEL: Yes, I was Course 15.

KLINE: And you knew going-- was that what you were studying at Newton College before you arrived at MIT?

UBEL: No, I always wanted to be a teacher, and I was doing a lot of liberal arts. Of course, I didn't have to take one liberal arts when I got to MIT. I had them all done. [LAUGHS] So that was kind of too bad.

KLINE: What about roommates or other women you knew at MIT?

UBEL: One was Ellen Dirba [Ellen Willis Harland, SB Architecture '56]. You have to look her up.

KLINE: I will.

UBEL: She is fantastic. Her name isn't Dirba anymore. I should have her last name somewhere. I wonder if I do. Anyway, she graduated after me, because she was in architecture. So I think she probably graduated in '55 or '56. Look her up.

KLINE: I will.

UBEL: One thing we did in our apartment, which I thought was rather clever of us-- I mean, in those days, we didn't have cell phones and all that stuff. It was regular, old-fashioned telephone, and we had a big, thick phone book for the Boston area. Well, how to distinguish ourselves from everybody else? So we made up the name Zilman Zzyss. And we were the last phone number in the phone book. [LAUGHS] That way, the boys would say, what's your phone number? Look in the phone book. We're the last name there.

KLINE: That's so funny.

UBEL: That helped!

KLINE: [LAUGHS]

UBEL: It was a lot of fun at MIT.

KLINE: Yeah?

UBEL: It really was. I had a ball. I mean, I think life should be fun anyway. It shouldn't be all serious. Now how are you doing there?

KLINE: All right. It's very intense.

UBEL: What course are you majoring in?

KLINE: I'm 5 and 7.

UBEL: 5 and 7?

KLINE: Yeah, it's a joint major, so essentially biochemistry.

UBEL: Good for you.

KLINE: Yeah, I really like it. I really do like it. It's just that sometimes--

UBEL: Well, I think that's wonderful. I had a grandson that graduated from WashU in biomedical engineering. And then he took another year of electrical engineering. Now he's working. He's got a job!

KLINE: [CHUCKLES] So what did you do after you graduate?

UBEL: Oh, after I graduated, I worked in Boston for a year for the National Fire Protection Association. And then my sister, who lived out here in St. Paul, convinced me that I should come out here. And by that time, I had broken up with this boyfriend. You know how that is. "OK, let's get out of town and start afresh."

And so I moved out here, lived with an aunt, because my mother was from St. Paul. So I had lots of aunts and cousins and all of that around here. I had more family here than anyplace. I worked for Montgomery Ward as a time and motion study engineer. I was the one female in an office of-- I guess there were about eight engineers there. And all they did was time and motion study – examining the speed that workers could work at to make the almighty dollar better, and that type of thing. It was an interesting job.

At Montgomery Ward, they had girls on roller skates, seriously, in the shoe department. And this is all mail order now. An order would come in – "I want such and such a shoe" – from the catalog that the person had received. And it's thus and such number and whatnot. And the girl would get the order. And she'd roller skate until she got to that box, got the right one and roller skate back.

Well, it's a lot faster than walking. So we had a bunch of girls roller-skating up there in this big building, which is no longer. [LAUGHS] And then I got married and settled down and had four kids in less than five years. And I was busy.

KLINE: Wow. [LAUGHS]

UBEL: Then I got back to tutoring and teaching. I started when the youngest one was four. And I tutored dyslexic children. Now that was back when people didn't know what dyslexia was. But I did, because I had taken a course in it, not at MIT. And there's a method of teaching dyslexic children, which is called Orton Gillingham. I did a lot of that type of tutoring. And then later on, when the kids were older, I started teaching some of the Southeast Asian refugees in this area. We have quite a few. It started with Cambodians, and then the Hmong. So I did a lot of tutoring. And then I tutored children here at my house for years.

KLINE: In every subject?

UBEL: Yes, but mostly, it was children that got off to a bum start for one reason or another. I remember one boy in particular. He had a twin sister. They were the oldest kids in the family. Well, girls grow faster and mature faster, and they're more mature. You know what I mean.

KLINE: I have a twin brother – yeah, I know.

UBEL: Do you have a twin brother? Really?

KLINE: Yeah.

UBEL: And you we're miles ahead of him in school, I bet, weren't you? Huh?

KLINE: Yes.

UBEL: That's hard for a boy. You know, it'd be different if he was a year younger. It wouldn't bother him at all. Think of what his little ego was suffering. What does he do now?

KLINE: He studies political science and history at Wheaton College in Massachusetts.

UBEL: Yeah, it's very tough on a boy. Well, I had these twins, this boy of the twins, and he was way behind his sister. And I worked with him for a while. And I thought, "He's not dyslexic. There's nothing wrong with this boy. He just doesn't think enough of himself." So I tutored him for the whole summer on all the stuff that

he had had in the fifth grade and partially into the sixth grade, especially in the math. And by the end of the summer, I had convinced him that he was much, much brighter than his sister. I said, "Matthew, I'm telling you right now that you're so much smarter than your sister that from here on in, you will beat her in every subject you could ever take, the two of you. Don't worry about it. I know you can do it." And he went away convinced he could and he did. He ended up going to Notre Dame. She ended up going to the sister college, St. Mary's. She couldn't get into Notre Dame. I had convinced him he was smarter, and that's what it took. Remember that if you have twins, a boy and a girl.

KLIN: Did you have twins?

UBEL: No, I had four. [LAUGHS]

KLIN: Wow.

UBEL: Close together, but not twins. I had a girl and then three boys.

KLIN: Wow.

UBEL: My daughter is married, of course, and has three kids. Her oldest just got her Ph.D. in Oxford. And her second is in law school. And the third one is married, and he graduated from WashU. He's now married, and he works for a Swiss insurance company or something, gainfully employed. And then my second child is the one that went to MIT. He graduated in 1981, and he has three kids. As I told you, Cameron is gainfully employed now. Eric is the one that's a junior in school. And he is at Stanford right now. He's in Germany. And he's the brain, the whiz in that family. And Elsa is at Tufts. My third child was Peter [B.A., Carleton College '84, M.D., University of Minnesota, Twin Cities '88, Duke University School of Medicine Professor of Medicine, Professor of Business Administration]. Peter is a physician and a professor at Duke University. He's what they call distinguished bump, bump, ta-ta-ta. He's the egghead in the family.

KLIN: Meaning what?

UBEL: Meaning that he is brilliant, absolutely brilliant. I'm not saying that in a bragging way. Believe me, I'm not. This was the kid who never said a word until he was about two and a half years of age. People thought he was slow. And I thought, "No, he's biding his time." And then he started speaking in complete sentences. By the time he was two and a half, he was saying, "Mom, what's this word? What's this word? What's this word?" And I thought, hell, he wants to learn how

to read. I taught him how to read. And by the time he started kindergarten, he was reading at a third grade level. And it went higher and higher and higher, just brilliant. Andy's one that's closest to that is Eric, the one that's at Stanford. He got 36 on the--

KLIN: Oh, the ACT.

UBEL: And he took AP courses. He took 10 AP courses. He got fives on all of them, that type of thing, very much like Peter. I said to Andy, "Lots of luck. He's just like Peter." Anyway, my Peter is now a professor at Duke University. And he goes around also giving talks. He does a lot on medical expenses and ethics, and all of that kind of thing. Look him up.

KLIN: I will. I will.

UBEL: Dr. Peter Ubel. Type it into your computer, and you know all about Peter. Then the last one of my four kids is John, and he's a priest.

KLIN: Oh, wow.

UBEL: He's the rector of the Cathedral of St. Paul.

KLIN: Wow.

UBEL: So I've had-- they all go in different directions.

KLIN: Yeah, very accomplished, all of them.

UBEL: Yes.

KLIN: Impressive.

UBEL: And the eight grandchildren are sterling. I don't have any greats yet. I'm one of the few people my age that doesn't have a great. But I'm sure I'll get one soon. I mean, after all, there's one couple married. Let's get with it, kids, and give me a great. [LAUGHS] Now tell me about your mom and dad.

KLIN: My parents are both psychologists.

UBEL: They are?

KLIN: Yeah. My dad was a Tufts graduate.

UBEL: Oh, really?

KLINE: Yes, and now my best friends go to Tufts. So I love Tufts. [CHUCKLES]

UBEL: You do?

KLINE: Yeah. My mom graduated from Wesleyan. And she's also a clinical psychologist, but she specializes in behavioral therapy and testing younger kids. But my dad practices and consults to different middle schools and high schools. So that's what they do, and they're great.

UBEL: Interesting.

KLINE: Yes.

UBEL: And there are just the two of you?

KLINE: I have an older sister. She goes to Macalester, so I'm staying with her here.

UBEL: That's right. And she's a senior?

KLINE: Mhm. She's a senior. She studies anthropology and French.

UBEL: Oh, French!

KLINE: Yes.

UBEL: Ah, see, my father was French.

KLINE: Yes.

UBEL: And Elsa, the one that's at Tufts, is majoring in French. And she will be a junior next year and wants to spend a year in France.

KLINE: In France? I have a friend at Tufts who's going to spend a year in France.

UBEL: Like next year?

KLINE: Yes.

UBEL: Get the two of them together.

KLINE: I will, yeah.

UBEL: That'd be fun for the two of them, really.

KLINE: He's studying law, though, I think.

UBEL: Well, I don't know what Elsa will eventually do. I really don't.

KLINE: Yeah, I'm not sure what my sister will do either, but--

UBEL: Yeah, well, she graduates this year, though. How does she like Macalester?

KLINE: She really likes it. She spent not last semester, but last fall in Strasbourg, which I think she really loved. But she was very happy to come back to Macalester. And I'm happy that she's here. Otherwise, I don't think I ever would have made it out to St. Paul. It's really nice.

UBEL: It's kind of off the beaten track. We're called flyover country, a wonderful place to be.

KLINE: Yeah, it's great.

UBEL: I tell you that from the knowledge of living on the East Coast. I much prefer to be right here in no man's land. It's very comfortable.

KLINE: Yeah, that's true. I mean, I'm thinking about where I want to go to medical school.

UBEL: You want to go to medical school?

KLINE: Yes.

UBEL: What kind of a doctor do you want to be?

KLINE: This past summer, I did some work in infectious diseases, and I think right now that's what I'm most interested in. The research that I'm doing right now is microbiology focused. And I think somewhere in that realm of microbiology, infectious diseases, and immunology is where--

UBEL: My husband is a doctor.

KLINE: Is he?

UBEL: Internal medicine.

KLINE: Wow. And how did you meet him?

UBEL: That was funny. I had gone out with all kinds of guys at MIT and fallen in love and out of love. You know how it is. That's the way it used to be. In your day, you don't do that type of thing anymore. We used to fall in love, so forth and so on, a very romantic era.

Anyway, when I came out here, one of my cousins decided to have a party to introduce me to some of the eligible young men in St. Paul. My sister, of course, put her up to it. Anyway, so after that, I went to the apartment for the party. And I'm there and whatnot. And these young men are coming in, and everything. In comes Frank, and I was introduced to him. I looked at him, and I thought, "Oh my god, that's the man I'm going to marry." Now, I was not in love with him. Believe me, I wasn't even attracted to him. It was just, "That's the man I'm going to marry." It was the weirdest feeling. And he must have felt something. I didn't. All I felt was kind of, "Ah!" [LAUGHS] because then some of us were making plans to go ski the next Saturday, and he insisted on coming along. He'd never been skiing in his life. But he came. [LAUGHS] I mean, that's how dogged he was. He was immediately attracted to me. Well, that was January 29, 1956, and we got married December 29th of that same year.

KLINE: Oh, wow. And at that point, he was in medical school?

UBEL: No, he was all finished with his boards. He'd done the whole bit. He was like a bright plum.

[LAUGHTER]

KLINE: And he practices here?

UBEL: He practiced in St. Paul for years. He'd been asked to join the Mayo Clinic, because that's where he did his residency. But he had a father and mother to take care of up here, and he thought, "No, I better go home." So he got a job up here with another doctor. And then after a number of years, in 1967, he was made an offer he couldn't refuse, which was to go with 3M. That's the biggest employer in the state of-- it was founded in Minnesota. And it's the biggest employer for years. Anyway, he was medical director there.

KLING: Do you think that what you did and what your husband did influenced your children in what they wanted to do?

UBEL: Well, let's put it this way: they were not allowed to not do their homework, simply put. That's the nicest way I can say it. There were some royal battles with my daughter over that. But she was the one that fought me the most of it. And the other thing that I absolutely refused, my boys were not allowed to be in football or ice hockey, those two sports, no way. They could do tennis or-- I think Kitzie got on the tennis team. I think it was the tennis team. The boys were in soccer. And I can't remember—Baseball, that was their big thing, but no hockey, no football. Especially football.

KLING: And your mother was a musician, yes?

UBEL: Yes, after she graduated from high school, she accompanied a tenor on his tour with his wife. So it was perfectly legitimate. She was his accompanist. And then I think she worked at-- yeah, this is the funny thing. She got a job at my husband's father's jewelry store.

KLING: Oh, wow.

UBEL: Yes. [LAUGHING] St. Paul is a very small town. And anyway, in fact, when my father met her in New York, because she had come to visit her much older sister, who was a really top-tier musician. And Mary invited her kid sister to come and stay with her for a while. My aunt played organ like at St Patrick's Cathedral, stuff like that. Anyway, a friend had a party and invited Mary, my aunt, to come. And my aunt said, "Well, my kid sister is with me." "Oh, bring her along." My father was at the party.

KLING: [LAUGHS]

UBEL: Instant love for him, absolutely instant love. My mother was 19. Well, he had to wait a few years, but he finally got her. And they got married. So they were very much in love with each other always. And he was president and CEO of his company, which you would never have heard of, Liquid Carbonic Corporation. They're the ones that put the fizz in Coca-Cola. And anyway, then during the time that he was working, he and my mom traveled extensively, and afterwards, even more so. She was in Norway when my Andy was born, talk about the mother who is always the grandma. Uh-uh. Then when I had John, they were on a trip around the world. I think they were in South Africa or something. [LAUGHING] So she had a wonderful time with him going on all these trips. And Frank and I have been on many, many trips.

KLINE: Yeah? Where have you been?

UBEL: Well, we took a Baltic cruise. That was a wonderful thing. We went to the Holy Land. [SIGHS] Breathtaking. Have you got a religion?

KLINE: Culturally, yes. I'm culturally Jewish. I'm going to Israel in December.

UBEL: Don't miss it. I mean, the Jewish faith is a beautiful faith. It really is. And all the other Christian religions, all of the Christian religions, stem from the Jewish faith. So you should be very proud of your heritage.

KLINE: I am. I'm really excited to go there. I think it's important.

UBEL: Definitely. You'll love it.

KLINE: I hope so. Well, thank you so much for your time.

UBEL: Thank you, Maddy.