

PURDUE

UNIVERSITY



INVENTORY TO CLIFFORD AND JO SWANLUND PAPERS 1943-2002

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Descriptive Summary

Creator Information	Swanlund, Clifford, 1932- Swanlund, Mary "Jo" Carty, 1933-2002
Title	Clifford and Jo Swanlund papers
Collection Identifier	MSA 24
Date Span	1943-2002, predominant 1949-1953
Abstract	The collection consists of correspondence, photographs, ephemera, autobiographical information and other miscellaneous items, which document the lives and careers of Clifford and Jo Swanlund.
Extent	2 cubic feet (3 boxes)
Finding Aid Author	Mary A. Sego, 2009
Languages	English
Repository	Virginia Kelly Karnes Archives and Special Collections Research Center, Purdue University Libraries

Administrative Information

Location Information:	ASC
Access Restrictions:	Collection is open for research.
Acquisition Information:	2006-2007; Clifford Swanlund; Donation
Accession Number:	20060907 and 20060907.1
Preferred Citation:	MSA 24, Clifford and Jo Swanlund papers, Archives and Special Collections, Purdue University Libraries

Subjects and Genres

Persons

Swanlund, Clifford, 1932-

Swanlund, Mary Jo Carty, 1933-2002

Organizations

Purdue University

United States. Army. Reserve Officers' Training Corps

United States. Army

Topics

Purdue University--Alumni

Purdue University--Students

Form and Genre Types

Correspondence

Love letters

Printed ephemera

Black-and-white photographs

Scrapbooks

Occupations

Civil engineering

Biography of Clifford and Jo Swanlund

Clifford Swanlund was born January 29, 1932, and Mary (Jo) Carty Swanlund was born June 16, 1933. They attended the same high school, Maplewood Richmond Heights in St. Louis (Maplewood), Missouri. In the summer of 1949, before Cliff entered Purdue University as a freshman, they began dating. They continued their relationship throughout Cliff's four years at Purdue, as he worked toward a Bachelor of Science degree in Civil Engineering. They wrote many letters to each other during their time apart, and their relationship grew closer. They were engaged August 23, 1952, a month before Cliff entered his senior year at Purdue. Cliff graduated from Purdue University in May 1953, with a B.S. in Civil Engineering. He and Jo were married on June 20, 1953 at the Maplewood Baptist Church. In July 1953, they began a two year tour in the Army with three months at Fort Belvoir, Virginia and five months at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri, followed by a year plus in Kitzingen, Germany. Upon their return home, they began a fifteen month Shell Oil Company training program at various (twelve) locations in Oklahoma, Colorado, Montana, Louisiana, and Texas. This culminated in assignment to New Orleans in mid-1956, where their son Chuck was born in 1959 and daughter Judy in 1961. The family moved to Houston in early 1964. Cliff continued to work for Shell Oil Company, and Jo's professional career started in 1968 when she began volunteering at St. Joseph Hospital, Department of Psychiatry. Through her efforts, the Psychiatric Volunteer Service was initiated and developed as one of only a few organizations in the country that recruited and trained volunteers for in-patient visitation on psychiatric wards. She became Staff Director (Coordinator) of the PVS in 1970. She went on to serve other hospitals in their volunteer efforts, but her career came to an abrupt end due to a stroke. She and Cliff resided in their home in Maplewood, until Jo's passing on April 27, 2002. They were married for 49 years.

Source(s):

Information and finding aid photograph were taken from the autobiographical information provided in the collection.

Collection Description

Scope

The Clifford and Jo Swanlund papers (1943-2002; 2 cubic feet) document the lives and careers of Cliff Swanlund and Jo Carty Swanlund. The collection contains an extensive number of letters written by Cliff and Jo from the beginning of their relationship through the early years of their marriage. It also contains many letters written by Cliff's parents to him, while he was a student at Purdue University. The correspondence gives one a unique perspective not only on the family itself, but on outside events which occurred during this time period. The letters are a wonderful memorial to the love and devotion this couple shared throughout their lives. Some of the letters are in poor condition, due to aging of the paper. The photographs also give a glimpse into Purdue life at this time. Some of the photographs are in poor condition, but one can view the subjects. Besides the strong collection of letters, some photographs and albums, there are other ephemera and miscellaneous items related to the Swanlund's lives, such as an autobiography written about the Swanlund family, "plus My Story" written by Clifford A. Swanlund, Jr. The collection consists of three boxes, which are in the order received and the contents are in chronological order, for the most part.

Descriptive Rules

Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Processing Information

Whenever possible, original order of the materials has been retained. All materials have been housed in polyester sleeves, acid-free folders, and acid-free boxes.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE COLLECTION

Clifford and Jo Swanlund papers, 1943-2007

(2 cubic feet)

Box 1 Contents:

Folder

1. Letters from Jo to Cliff, 1949-1953
Thank you letter from R. B. Wiley, Head of Civil Engineering and Engineering Mechanics
2. Letters to Jo from Cliff, 1949-1953
Car Invoice - \$1,944.12 for Plymouth Cambridge Cl. Sedan (Sonora Bronze)
3. Letters between Jo and Cliff, Summer R.O.T.C Camp, 1952
R.O.T.C. Summer Camp, Belvoir Castle, Friday, July 11, 1952, p. 8
R.O.T.C. Summer Camp, Belvoir Castle, Friday, July 18, 1952, p. 8
R.O.T.C. Summer Camp, Belvoir Castle, Friday, July 25, 1952, p. 8
R.O.T.C. *Trestle*, 1952 Summer Camp, Fort Belvoir, VA (bound publication)
The Engineer Center, The Engineer School, Engineer Research & Development and the Engineer Replacement Training Center, Fort Belvoir, VA (bound publication)
4. Bob Leonard Letters [on CD], 1950-1953
5. Letters to Jo from Cliff in Germany, March-June, 1954
6. Letters Home from Jo and Cliff in Germany and Letters to Germany, and some while on Shell Training Program, 1954
7. School Album, 1943-1951
Cliff in Junior High School and High School, 1943-1949
Jo in High School, 1947-1951
8. Purdue Album, 1949-1953
Admission Certificate
Residence Hall Agreement, Cary Hall
Programs for Purdue Theatre, Hall of Music, Convocations, and Playshop Events
Report Cards
Ross Surveying Camp
Newspaper Clippings
Phi Eta Sigma Invitation Letter
Chi Epsilon Fraternity Invitation Letter and Certificate
R.O.T.C. Standings of Senior Cadet Officers
Purdue Order of Military Merit Letter
R.O.T.C. Summer Camp Photographs
Tau Beta Pi Certificate and Clipping
Purdue Military Department, Appointment Letter to Cadet Lieutenant Colonel
R.O.T.C. Group Photograph
Engineering Open House Program and Clipping
Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering Diploma
Purdue Distinguished Military Graduate Letter

Selective Serve System College Student Certificate

Box 2 Contents:

Folder

1. Courtship Album (scrapbook), 1949-1953
 - List of Jo and Cliff's First Dates
 - Wedding and Prom Photographs
 - Marriage License
 - Newspaper Clippings
2. Photographs, 1949-1953 [Photographs are faded and in poor condition.]
 - Graduations for Jo and Cliff
 - Visits to Purdue (Gala Week, Homecoming)
 - Senior Cords
3. Autobiographical Draft, 2002-2007
4. Correspondence and Two Wedding Photographs (sister Jeanne & friend), 1949-1953
 - Letters to Cliff from his parents
 - Letters to Cliff from his sister Jeanne
 - Letters from Cliff to his parents and sister
5. Purdue University Transcript, ca. 1953
6. Purdue University, *Life* – Clipping on Big Ten Traditions, undated
7. U. S. Army Album, ca. 1953-1955 [Folder 1 of 2]
8. U. S. Army Album, ca. 1953-1955 [Folder 2 of 2]
9. New Orleans Album (Scrapbook), ca. 1956-1963
10. *Swanlund Family plus My Story*, by Clifford A. Swanlund, Jr.

Box 3 Contents:

Wedding Album, June 20, 1953