



Ray Hawk, vice president for administration, reflects on his 32 years at the University.

service probably has had as much influence on my basic beliefs of how to deal with people and fair play," Hawk says. "The service was a very rewarding experience."

After Hawk's tenure of service, he returned to Oregon and began working on his masters and doctoral degrees. When he returned, Hawk says he felt like he was far from the "provincial Oregonian" he was when he'd left. "I felt that I'd found that mountain and climbed it."

While he was a graduate student, he was hired as assistant to the dean of men.

Hawk left Eugene for a position at SOSOC after finishing his dissertation. A year later, Hawk had an offer from the University to come back as director of admissions. "I told them 'no,' I wasn't a paper-pusher," Hawk says.

The University then offered Hawk the position of dean of men and Hawk accepted. He says a lot of the reason he was hired was that there were so many servicemen back in school who needed to talk with someone who'd been through the same types of experiences.

"I didn't think I'd have any desire, professionally, to be dean of men. Lo and behold, that's what eventually happened," Hawk says.

The natural question about Hawk's career seems to be why he didn't make it as far as the presidency of this or any other institution.

"At one time I thought I wanted to be president,"

Hawk says. He had the opportunity after his Carnegie Fellowship at the University of Michigan in 1959. He got another taste of the presidency after Johnson was killed.

"I got to thinking, 'why on earth do I want to get into a situation where I had to do things that I really don't care to do,'" Hawk says.

Hawk doesn't regret the decision not to try for the presidency. "The president isn't paid that much more, I have more anonymity," Hawk says. Besides, he adds "I'd had enough plums already."

Anonymity from the general public does not mean that students don't know him, or remember him.

Hawk received a letter from a former student who heard he was retiring. Hawk says he still remembers "vividly," the day he invited the young man into his office "and suggested he leave the University to get his academic head screwed on straight."

The student, heeding Hawk's advice, left the University and subsequently enrolled in another school. He's now the director of a major medical society and quite successful, Hawk says.

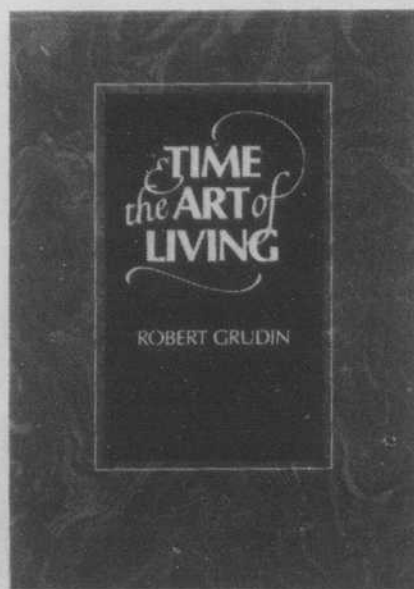
"You don't think of those things at the time, but when flashbacks come to you, then you realize what you do does make a difference."

**Story by Debbie Howlett
Photos by Bob Baker**

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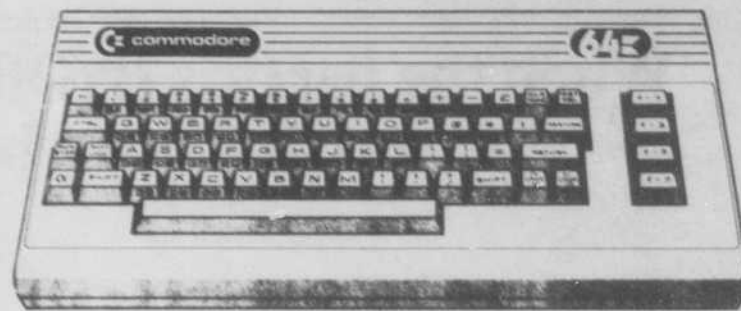
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