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Golden Terrier Interviews

Cathy and I conversed with two women, Sally (CAS '60 studying English) and Roberta (Wheelock '68). The two met after college in the workplace, helping Russian immigrants find jobs. Sally actually lived in Kilachand Hall during her senior year, so we brought her to our dorm for her to see how it has changed.

Sally emphasized that back then, people would "go to school to get your 'Mrs'" and women would get married during their junior or senior year. In the eyes of her parents, they wanted her to study education so that "god forbid" she would have to support herself, she would have a stable job. Men weren't allowed in Kilachand Hall or past the first floor.

Sally's husband was African American. His sister often spent time with international students from Africa, and Sally said that while they were usually princes and people of royalty, they seemed to treat her as someone special. Sally's husband spent his undergrad at Tufts University, then served in the army. Later, he went to law school and transferred to BU's graduate school to study English. He went on reserve in the army (waiting for his unit to be made active but it usually wouldn't, so it was a way to be paid but inactive). In 1964, Sally got pregnant and told her husband to get out of reserve because she couldn't imagine what she would do if she had to go through her pregnancy alone, and he was able to get out ("you couldn't just 'get out' of the army at the time") because he had already served some time. Right after he got out, his unit was activated and sent toward the Vietnam War effort. He was trained as a green beret, jumping out of buildings.

Roberta stated that there were protests on campus, but a lot of students weren't very active; students are much more active now. She recalled that a man (Bill Baird) came to campus to speak about birth control. She also said she remembered a specific congresswoman who was against bussing Boston. She said she marched in a feminist protest in New York after graduating.