

Jane Broedel transcript

Working While Pregnant

You know the only amusing, there are lots of amusing things, the only amusing gender thing I can think of. Well I had my daughter 6 months before I started there and 6 years later I had my son and I got really big with him. He was due May 31 and I worked until May 30 which was a mistake. And so I was a floater at that time, now I have my own route, when you first start, you're a part time flaps, which means you go wherever they need you, so you never get used to any one thing. And that's kind of bad in that you're new, so you're already confused and then you're never on the same thing, so you never have any continuity which makes you feel kind of stupid like the first couple of weeks I was there, I'd go home and I'd be almost in tears and I'd tell my husband, they're going to fire me I know they're not going to keep me, but they did. But with my son, I started getting an hour's help every day. So I was giving away, kind of then part of my route because I was too big. I couldn't walk that fast. And there was a hilly route in Davenport that I floated on, it was above the river, it's called McClellan Heights, it's kinda across from the Rock Island Arsenal, where they held Confederate prisoners during the war, and it's on a bluff where the Mississippi river goes through between Illinois and Iowa. And there's this one place where I would deliver, I would go up this alley, go in their back gate, deliver their mail, and then I could either walk like 15 feet to this ledge, that was about this high, or I used to be able to put my foot on the ledge, you know 'cause I was young remember, and that was a back door delivery, because their back door for delivery for the next house was right there and then "bam" you had three more houses to go and you were back to the jeep. But when I got pregnant with Reed, and then towards the end, there was no way I could do that. So my choice was either go back out, down the alley, clear around the hill, or, what I did, because the ledge was maybe about this high, maybe slightly lower, was put my bag up on the ledge, put my rear end up on the ledge, swung my legs over, and got back up. Because it was not worth all that walking. So yeah, I fell a few times when I was pregnant with him and fell in the mud and stuff. So that's only really the kind of gender thing that I had to go through that of course a guy had to go through.