

Excerpted from an interview with John Budke and Alysa Hall conducted by Jacob Wood on November 9, 2019. This interview is part of the Mount St. Helens Oral History Project of Washington State Parks.

Excerpt begins at 29:53

John Budke (JB): Helga was up there, sitting on a log, and Alysa was gonna go explore or something. Er, and, um, said, "I'll be right back". And left her. So, Helga, this poor European doctor, (laughs), was sitting on a log with just the wind. It's Windy Ridge, right? Literally, just the wind blowing. No one around. Vast nothing...and had a full on panic attack. Because of the desolation up there. And, so, it's little stories like that. And, you know, that would've been 30 years after the eruption, cause it was about 10 years ago, that that happened. And, my wife, Alysa's hiked the mountain around the base of it, and...a couple times.

Alysa Hall (AH): It's getting greener.

JB: So, she's seen the recovery.

Excerpt ends at 30:38