

**COLLECTION: Edward Lowe writings and other material, 1956-1994****CREATOR: Edward Lowe (1920-1995)**

## Abstract

The bulk of this collection is comprised of Edward Lowe's writings that span the years 1956-1994 (bulk dates 1981-1994). It includes essays, drawings, general rules, lists, manuscripts, notes, plays, poetry, short stories, song lyrics, and a script. Manuscripts in the collection include "The Man Who Discovered the Golden Cat" and "Hail, Entrepreneur." "Ponderings," a set of poetry books composed and published by Edward Lowe and illustrated by Darlene Lowe is also in the collection. Of special interest are Lowe's general rules that describe in a short phrase Lowe's version of a customary occurrence. Additional materials include 263 drawings by Pop Momand for the "Keeping Up With the Joneses" daily comic strip, Lowe's memberships and identification cards, as well as a hat collection that is on exhibit in the Edward Lowe Foundation Heritage Center.

## Descriptive Summary

Repository	Edward Lowe Foundation Archives, Cassopolis, Mich.
Creator	Edward Lowe
Title	Edward Lowe writings and other material, 1971-1994 (bulk dates 1981-1994)
Language	English
Extent	2287 items
Additional physical forms:	Collection is available in digital format.

## Administrative Information

Restrictions on access: Access to "The Man Who Discovered the Golden Cat" is restricted.  
 Terms governing use and reproduction: Contact Heidi Connor at [heidi@lowe.org](mailto:heidi@lowe.org) to use this collection.  
 Copyright to Edward Lowe's writings is held by the Edward Lowe Foundation.

## Contents of the Collection

22 drawings  
 603 essays  
 194 general rules  
 82 lists  
 216 notes  
 1 play  
 933 poems  
 10 song lyrics  
 93 short stories

## Biographical Note

Edward Lowe was an entrepreneur, who invented the cat box filler industry in 1947, and he was the founder of the Edward Lowe Foundation in Cassopolis, Mich. Lowe was born in St. Paul, Minn., in 1920 to Lulu and Henry Lowe. His parents returned to their home state of Michigan when Ed was a small child, and it was in Cass County, Mich., that Ed Lowe was

raised. Edward Lowe began writing as a hobby in grade school. He continued this interest throughout his life and wrote poetry, short stories, plays, song lyrics, “general rules,” topical essays, a biography and a guide for entrepreneurs. He was, admittedly, a poor student and speller. However, he was an avid reader and attributed his interest in writing to “his love of the printed word.” Of special interest are Lowe’s general rules that are statements capturing life lessons interpreted from Lowe’s own experiences and observations. Works published by Lowe include: his biography, “The Man Who Discovered The Golden Cat” in 1987; an encyclopedia of basic entrepreneurial survival skills, “Hail, Entrepreneur” in 1994; a collection of poetry, “Ponderings,” from 1982-1992, illustrated by his wife Darlene Lowe; and in the early 1990s he was editor and publisher of a newsletter titled “The Main Street Journal.”

#### SUBJECT HEADINGS

Big Rock Valley  
 Edward Lowe Foundation  
 Entrepreneurship  
 Family  
 Government  
 Lowe, Darlene  
 Nature  
 Politics

PREFERRED CITATION: Edward Lowe Foundation Archives, Edward Lowe writings and other material

#### PROVENANCE

Edward Lowe’s writings and other materials were received as a gift by the Edward Lowe Foundation Archives in 1995. The Pop Momand cartoon collection was purchased by Edward Lowe. This cartoon collection was donated to the foundation in 2012 by Darlene Lowe. The original manuscript collection was destroyed in a fire on January 23, 2011. Lowe’s manuscript collection was retrieved from legacy files held by Edward Lowe Industries Inc. and the Edward Lowe Foundation. Additional components of this collection that were destroyed by fire include a personal library collection, wardrobe collection and Lowe’s “Red Hot Files,” which held subject files on topics of interest to Lowe. Materials de-accessioned from this collection in 1996 include textile looms and related equipment donated to American Textile History Museum in Lowell, Mass.; printing presses donated to The International Printing Museum in Carson, Calif.; a comic strip collection donated to the Museum of Comic and Cartoon Art formerly of Boca Raton, Fla.; a collection of historic newspapers donated to the Peace Museum in Chicago, Ill., and at the time the largest donation of LP records received from a private donor, numbering 45,000, to the Rock And Roll Hall of Fame and Museum in Cleveland, Ohio.

For more information on Edward Lowe see the following collections in the Edward Lowe Foundation archives: Records of Edward Lowe Industries and subsidiaries, photographs, video recordings and other material for related information.

In 2007 the foundation gifted materials relative to Edward Lowe's cat box filler industry to the Bird Aviation Museum and Invention Center.