

Guide to

MS 449

A. Robert Nering papers

Span Dates, 1924-1999

1 inch (linear)

Processed by Carrie-Ann Chavez  
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Donated by A. Robert Nering, January 24, 2001.

Citation: A. Robert Nering papers, 1924-1999, MS 449, C.L. Sonnichsen Special Collections Department. The University of Texas at El Paso Library.

C.L. Sonnichsen Special Collections Department  
University of Texas at El Paso

## Biographical Sketch

Adolf Robert Nering, a prominent El Paso physician, was born in Cicero, Illinois on March 8, 1924 to Adolf Otto Nering and Elizabeth Frieda Koobs. He was known as "Dr. Bob" to his friends, colleagues, and patients. Nering grew up in Oak Park, Illinois where his father was a baker at a restaurant in Chicago and his mother studied to be a nurse, but dropped out due to a tuberculosis scare. When Nering was a teenager, his family moved to San Antonio, Texas. Born and raised as a Seventh-Day Adventist, he later converted to Catholicism.

In 1947, he graduated from the University of Texas Medical School at Galveston and married Marian Louise Kane of Topeka, Kansas. After their wedding, Nering and his wife moved to Kansas City, Missouri so he could intern at St. Luke's Hospital. A few years later, Nering and his wife moved to El Paso for his residency at what was then El Paso General (later known as Thomason Hospital and now as University Medical Center of El Paso). Nering worked as a staff member for General Surgery at Hotel Dieu Hospital in 1951. After completing his residency, Nering opened up a family practice. He and his family often travelled and spent time together.

According to his memoir, Nering stated that he learned more skills as a doctor at El Paso General than all his medical training elsewhere. He was also known as "grandfather doctor," for delivering a child to a woman he once delivered twenty years prior. For a while, Nering specialized in industrial medicine and worked as a company doctor for ASARCO, Farah, Hortex, and the Southern Pacific Railroad. He also worked as a team doctor for the Texas Western College football team. Nering continued his army career by joining the Texas National Guard, retiring as a Lieutenant Colonel. Nering, at the request of his children, penned a memoir of his life and donated it to the University of Texas at El Paso Special Collections Department to be used for research. Nering died at age 79 on July 5, 2003. He was survived by his wife, children, and grandchildren.

### References:

"Obituary," *El Paso Times*, 2003.

Robert A. Nering "Memoirs of A. Robert Nering M.D.," 1999.

## Series Description or Arrangement

Series is arranged in one series:

## **Series I. Manuscript, 1999**

Kept in original order created by A. Robert Nering.

## **Scope and Content Notes**

The Robert. A Nering papers contain Dr. Nering's memoir from 1999.

## **Provenance Statement**

Donated by A. Robert Nering, M.D., on January 24, 2001.

## **Restrictions**

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## **Literary Rights Statement**

Permission to publish material from the A. Robert Nering papers, must be obtained from the C. L. Sonnichsen Special Collections Department, the University of Texas at El Paso Library. Citation should read, A. Robert Nering papers, C. L. Sonnichsen Special Collections Department, the University of Texas at El Paso Library.

## **Notes to the Researcher**

Researchers should also view:

Barbara Dent collection of medical history research, C.L. Sonnichsen Special Collections Department. The University of Texas at El Paso Library.

Funkhouser, Barbara. *The Caregivers: El Paso's Medical History 1898 to 1998*. Sundance Press, Inc.: El Paso, Texas, 1999.

The historical records of the former ASARCO El Paso Smelter site, C.L. Sonnichsen Special Collections Department. The University of Texas at El Paso Library.

Hotel Dieu School of Nursing records, C.L. Sonnichsen Special Collections Department. The University of Texas at El Paso Library.

Hotel Dieu Hospital collection, C.L. Sonnichsen Special Collections Department. The University of Texas at El Paso Library.

Ramirez, Elma Galentine. "History of Hotel Dieu Hospital," Thesis, The University of Texas at El Paso, 1952.

Sister Aloysius Williams collection, C.L. Sonnichsen Special Collections Department. The University of Texas at El Paso Library.

Southern Pacific Bulletin collection, C. L. Sonnichsen Special Collections Department, the University of Texas at El Paso Library.

## Container List

Series I. Manuscript, 1999

Box #	Folder #	Title	Date
1	1	"Memoirs of A. Robert Nering, M.D." - by A. Robert Nering	1999