

Bryan Bertucci
interviewing
Shirley Turino

me - where and when were you born

Grandma - I was born in Ishpeming Michigan so I have
to give you the date Bryan

me - yes

Grandma - I was born on July 4th 1923 in the house next
door to where I live now in French town location
I'm sure a lot of people around will be
familiar with French town location so I
never did get far from home

me - How many children were in your family

Grandma - in my immediate family

me - yes

Grandma - there four girls and one boy and I was the
oldest of five children and we had a set of
twins in the family my older sisters were twins
by the way to my father died in the mine when
I was six years old my mother was left to
raise five children and in those days the mines
didn't have no leniency for women left widowed

me - how old were you when he died

Grandma - I was six years old I was in kindergarten
He was killed at the that mine isn't there
any more it was the Cambridge mine in Regard
right near Teal Lake

me - were did you go to school

Grandma - when I was in kindergarden I went into the it was called the high street school then and that was where the Phelps school stands now and then when my mother was left a widow we moved to the French town location so she could be near her family and then I went to the Solsberry school with is now an apartment building so both schools I attended are no longer there

me - what were your teachers like did you like any of them

Grandma - I don't really remember much about my kindergarden teacher but I can accurately say I think I like all my teachers they were pretty good we didn't have men teachers in those days at least I didn't have any but I went to the sixth grade at Solsberry school and then I entered the St. Johns schools convent school in downtown and I staid there until eighth grade

me - what were the schools like were they one room school or like they have know

Grandma - no there like they are know only I remember when I think ah when I was in first and second grade they were together so the teacher would teach one grade while the other grade was studying I suppose or what ever so

me - how did you get to school

Grandma - walk of course! but when I went to Solsberry school we only lived three houses away from the school and then when I was in sixth grade we walked to St. Johns school and high school also there were no

leaving them at all the only ones that were
bused were those from north side and the out
lined districts

me- what year did you graduate from High school

Grandma- 1941 the year the war broke out

me- from what school

Grandma- Ashpaming High school

me- did you go to college after High school

Grandma- just the school of Hard nose (laughs)

I went right from graduating as soon as
I turned 18 I start working at the gasard
mitch is no longer there looks like all the
buildings I have attended are no longer there
hay bryant (laughs)

me- were you in the war in any way

Grandma- no I wasn't in the war myself but
almost some member of my family
was and I was going with grandpa at
the time and you know and he
was in the navy and my brother was in
the army and I had a lot of cousins
you know that were in the service
and um they all came home safe and
sound but one one was in the
submarine service and it was toward the
end of the war and I can't remember
the name of the submarine now

but they never did find out what happen
and we never heard anymore about it if there
where any survivors or anything its kind of a mystery
me do you remember the Great Depression at
all

Maudra - no not really umm I imagine we didn't
have very much but I wasn't aware of it
at the time you know we never seemed to go
hungry or anything I think when you
lived in a small town you were kind of
fortunate because we had all our family
around you know and people had gardens
and um they just kind of helped one
another and we were hand me down close
I remember when we were kids we would get
a package from some relatives in
Buttth Minnesota and that was kinda like
- the highlight of the day when we got a
package from them because we'd all
was all most like Christmas because we'd
see you know what close would but who so
that was kinda it was kinda fun you know and
we weren't aware of that my mother sewed lot
of our close and my dad's aunt you'd be hum
put and stay maybe a week or two at a
time and see some new close for us
so I guess we weren't aware of and then we
shared we shared one bicide and every body
shared there slays or what ever they had
you know we kind of all um we had

had a lot of cousins and we kinda all played together I don't think we were aware of any of being deprived of any thing

me- what kinda jobs did you have or job

Grandma- well like I told ya I worked at the gasard until I got married you know and aa when Paul came out of the service we got married then he started a business of his own and then I just stayed home and raised a family and that's a job in its self! (laughing)
don't let any body bid you (laughs)

me- what kinda diseases were there when you were younger

Grandma- um (laughs) I remember scarlet fever one of my cousins had scarlet fever (laughs) and in those days they usta put a quarantine sign on the house and you know nobody was aloud to enter the house if they saw a house that had a scald fever was considered then a really one of you know the bad ones at that time when I was growing up other wise it was just measles and mumps and things like that sore throats the usual thing

me - did you go to the doctors office or did
the doctor make house calls

Grandma - the doctor made house calls we
never went to the dentist unless we
had a tooth ache we never made visits
regularly to the dentists like the kids
do now - a days you know

me - when were you married what year

Grandma - hm I'll hafta think about that for a
minute by 1946

me - how many kids did you have

Grandma - five children 2 boys and three girls

me - did you have chores to do when you were
were younger

Grandma - we sure did In those days my mother
we had a wood stove so umm being a
widow and all people would come over
and help her get umm somebody would
come over with a um saw machine
and they used to saw the wood and
after it was in piles we would have to
throw it in the wood shed and stack it
up so when we would come home from
school that was one of our chores to do
to throw the wood in the wood shed and
of course the girls in the family had
to help with the washing and hang out
the clothes

things like that we learned how to bake
cakes and make our own beds and things like
that wash dishes I think there were more chores for
the kids you know then the kids have now a
days to do

me did you get an allowance

grandma - definitely not I don't think anybody in those
days really got an allowance why if you wanted
something you asked for it maybe you got it
maybe you didn't we had money to go to the
shop once and a while maybe or to go buy
an ice cream cone with is really a treat to the
nabor hood store our and we usta in the summer
time we usta my uncle had horses and a
he usta make hay in the summer time and
that was fun helping him pitch hay on
the the big hay load you know the hay
wagan and once the wagon was all full
piled up with the hay we could all ride
home on top of the big big hay pile and then
when he got it home and all in the barn
we usta play up in the hay loft you know
in the barn jumping around in the straw
boy did we ever get itchy backs from
all that straw going down our backs
tossing at one another so um then
our pay for helping out with that was
we'd get they'd give us each a mickle

imagine an ice cream cone in those days
was a nickel and we'd run to the store and
there weren't all the flavors they have now
it was just well I just remember getting
vanilla ice cream you know but that
was a real treat on a hot summer day
me - what year did you stop working the year
you got married

Grandma - oh lets see I worked for hmmm gosh
Bry I can't remember I worked for
a couple years no I worked longer than
that do you mean after I got married
did I work

me - yeh

Grandma - no I never worked after I got married
just now maybe about eight no a year maybe
after I got married I worked before
Grandpa started after he got home from the
service and I worked for a while because
until he found out what he was going to do
you know he worked at capillans bakery
for a while and umm which is a rather
building that isn't there no more (laughs)
then he decided to go into business for
him selve 8

and built a gas station he got permission from
the um us steel company and um built a
gas station which is called woomers service station
now I think its about six or seven years ago
I think that he sold it retired from the gas
station

me - what do you do now

Grandma - what do I do now boy I
just enjoy live I do volunteer
work I did volunteer work
as a teachers aid in kindergarten
at Phelps school for nine ^{years}
and right now I'm doing volunteer
work at St. Vincens a society with I
I really love doing you meet a lot
of nice people in the store its a very
rewarding.

me - do you want to retire later on or keep
working

Grandma - oh as long as I feel good and
have my health I just like to
keep on doing what I'm doing or
where ever there's a need to help somebody
or to make your true full filling you
know to and I enjoy the grand ^{children} 9
children and their a real joy to me

and my husband and um I just enjoy
live and I have alot of hobbies I
like doing craft work knitting and crocheting
and um growing flowers in the summer
time and being outside enjoying going
out the camp and I just enjoy like
me - do you sell any of your crafts that
you make

Grandma yeh I sell some of it lot of it
I enjoy giving away theirs a crafts
store in Meegance that takes things
on consignment I do sell some
things their so thats a little bit rewarding
rewarding to know other people
a like to buy what your making and
think its nice enuff to you know to
make a purchase and um but I
think I enjoy giving it away every
little bit as I enjoy selling it
me - o h thanks

Grandma - your welcome by I enjoyed doing
that