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Anna Nardi's
interview with
Tony Nardi - Dad

My name is Anna Nardi. I'm interviewing my dad Tony Nardi on his life and his job and the date is February 22, 1993.

Me: When and where were you born?

Tony: Ishpeming, 1954

Me: What were your parent's names?

Tony: Frank was my father's name and Lorraine ~~was~~ was my mother's name.

Me: What are the names of your brothers and sisters?

Tony: Judy, Karen, and Janet

Me: Were you married, if so, when and where?

Tony: yes, I was married. 1972 in Ishpeming.

Me: What is your spouse's name?

Tony: Peggy

Me: What did your parents do for a living?

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Tony: My dad was a janitor at Ishpeming high school and my mother worked for I.O.A. Store.

Me: Where did you go to school?

Tony: Ishpeming

Me: What special memories do you have of growing up in this area?

Tony: Well I guess just the different things you could do around here and not being very pop-ulated like skiing and fishing... and stuff like that.

Me: Were you athletic?

Tony: Yes I was. I played football in high school and 2 years at Northern. I was in track.

Me: What special features stand out in your mind about the cities of Ishpeming and Negaunee from when you were younger?

Tony: Well I guess the population is the biggest thing that you uh there used to be empty lots where I used to live but now there's houses.

Me: What kinds of things did you and your friends do for

entertainment when you were (3)
teenagers?

Tony: Well I think we played more outside then people do these days. We uh skied around the house, and different things and ball fields by the houses so we always had something to do.

Me: Where did you hang out when you were a teenager?

Tony: Well lets see. On the weekends it was the Congress, was the big hangout for Ishpeming so that's where most of the people went otherwise the winter sports area we used to go to since I lived in that area.

Me: How old were you when you found your first job and where ~~was~~ did you work?

Tony: Well, I guess ^{I was} 18 when I got my first job and it was a carryout for a grocery

Me: What store?

Tony: Oh, Josph in down town.

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Me: What types of duties did you perform?

Tony: Well it's just basically bagging groceries, carrying them out to the car and stocking ^{the} shelves.

Me: What stands most in your mind about your first job?

Tony: Well I guess it's the fact that it was the first time I was earning money.

Me: Were you ever in the Military, if so please describe your experiences there.

Tony: Yes, I was in the Military and I went to about 17 (different) countries and travel all around the United States.

Me: Name a few.

Tony: (Countries?)

Me: Yes.

Tony: Oh, I was in Iceland, Azores, which is an island,

Tony: continued - I was in a h
Panama, Germany.

Me: What did you do?

Tony: Well, I would the job was
similar to a telephone line
man type job.

Me: Could you describe more
about the places you've been,
like the people, the land?

Tony: Well Iceland is all tundra
and it's not very populated.
it's major city, Reykjavik, held
the world chess match. The
Panama canal is real interesting
where I went the people were
very poor. Their houses were on
stilts. ~~where~~ the people would go
to the bathroom in the river
where they also washed
themselves, cook, ect. When I
was there it was still owned
by the U.S. and there was a lot
of hard feelings. I seen the
locks and also Queen Mary
II was also there when I was.

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Tony: I also visited the azores Island of Portugal. And I visited Germany, and England to name a few. England was just like pitchures. Buitiful contry side. There food wasn't very good, there was no spices in them.

Me: That's interesting.

Me: How or why did you choose this career why did you join the military? The money?

Tony: Well I joined the military at that time for 1 thing it was hard to get a job and the other thing was I went in the military to hopefully get to get to a different part of the country where I wanted to see what it was like to live there.

Me: In as much detail as possible, describe the main duties of your job now, ~~what~~ what do you do,

Me: where do you work? ⑦

Tony: Well I work at the Marquette Branch Prison and I'm a supervisor there so basically I supervise~~s~~s all the officers there. and I work in the housing units so ~~that's~~ that's where the prisoners sleep and stay most of ~~the~~ ^{the} time so I have to ~~make~~ ^{be} sure that they get everything that they have to have done, done. As far as showers and getting there food, different things like that.

Me: could you describe what the prisoner's day is like on a typical day?

Tony: Well, for the general population there called non-assaultive. Here's there scheldual:

6:00 Breakfast

8:00 Some have work in the housing units, maintance, janitorial, ect.

Tony: 1 1/2: of outside ⑧
exercise, some go to
school, church, and weight lifting.

11:30 Lunch

afternoon: some go to jobs.

5:00: everyone eats

No more prisoner movement, no restraints
on them.

The other population is called Segregation,
That's assaultive prisoners or mana-
ment problem prisoners. They never
come in contact with each other,
and everytime there not in cells
they always have chains (belly)
on them and there always with
an officer. They eat in there
cells and there only freetime is
1 1/2 of yard work.

Me: I never knew all that!

Me: Describe the training of this
job.

Tony: Well you have to have 2 years
of collage and a criminal
justice and then you spend a h

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Tony: 2 months at an academy before you start. And then there's numerous amount of training that you continue as the job progresses as a couple of weeks ago I had to go down to Lansing for ~~two weeks~~ ~~to continue~~ in the training of a different things, numerous things.

Me: Name one.

Tony: Well we had to know ^{an} self defense, we have to know CPR, we have to know first aid, we have to know fire safety.

Me: um!

~~Me~~ Me: What special equipment or clothing ~~do~~ this job require?

Tony: Well we have uniforms and then we also have to have different type of security items such as handcuffs and belly chains and then of course on the job we have to have cell keys and we got radios and there's guns for the gun towers and different things

Tony: needed for security.

Me: ~~Do~~ this job have any ^{special} rules or regulations to follow?

Tony: Yes, it's considered to be a pro-military type job so theres many rules and regulations that have to be followed.

Me: Name a few.

Tony: Well we have a whole ^{that have to be followed} set of policies and operating procedures to ensure the safety of the staff and the general public. Plus there's many rules that we have to enforce the prisoners follow. Which are numerous, there's literally thousands of polices ~~and~~ and procedures that we have.

Me: What's the most rewarding part of your job?

Tony: Well I haven't been working that long so I really, it's pretty hard to answer at that time.

Me: What was the most challenging or difficult part of your job?

Tony: Probely learning to, be able to, deal with the prisoners because its one of the only jobs where you have, you know, there, since there behind bars and so forth, you need to know how to be able to understand now it is for them.

Me: Did the duties of your job change over the years?

Tony: We're changing greatly because of different things especially the federal judges like ~~consent decree~~ ^{consent decree} in Marquette that made certain stipulations that the staff and the prisons have to do over so many years so right now were in that process of trying to do what the consent decree asked for.

Me: Do any other family members work for the same company?

Tony: No

Me: Did your job put you in any dangerous situation? If so, please describe them.

Tony: Well being in a prison your always in a dangerous situation.

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Tony: because of different stabings and things that happened. In the years that I've been there I've been involved in a few fights with weapons and so forth, I've never had any one attack me pre say with the weapon, but I had to break up fights where prisoners were fighting among themselves.

Me: Did you ever have any injuries?

Tony: Oh, yeh, I think I had minor injuries, bruises and stuff like that.

Me: So what happens to the prisoners once they break up the fight?

Tony: Well, they have different securities levels there if some people can have jobs and some people can go eat in the main chow hall. And then there's other ones that have to stay locked up 24 hours a day so if they began to be a management problem

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Tony: or for security reason
they become a problem they'll
go in a segregation cell.

Me: Is there any other interesting
events that happened so far
when you were working there?

Tony: Well, I don't really recall any
right now.

Me: What are your co-workers like?

Tony: Where's that?

Tony: Well, their good workers you know
most of them are like any other
place at work.

Me: What were your biggest responsibilities
of the job?

Tony: Well the biggest responsibility is
security for the staff and the
general public.

Me: Do you receive any special
awards for your ^{work} from your
employer and were you recognized
in any way for your job performance.

Tony: Yeh, I had some letter
appreciations in my file for
some, a couple of jobs I did
there.

Me: What are your favorite hobbies
or leisure activities?

Me: Do you have any special stories about them? 14

Tony: Well I guess we do alot of camping and boating, we fish and hunt. we do bowling. I do alot of bowling.

Me: Are you involved in any clubs, organizations, or sports leagues, if so please describe them.

Tony: Well, I belong to the EIKS club. ah I belong to a bowling league and I was invole in softball for many years but I don't participate anymore.

Me: Were you a member of a union, or you?

Tony: No, I'm a supervisor, ~~now~~ I'm management now, we don't have a union, I was a member of a union. I was teamsters at one time lets see I was MCO at one time, Michigan Corrections Occesiation. I also worked for the mine. I think that was AF, I don't know if that was AFLCO or whatever

Tony: union they have there.

Me: what did you do in the mine.

Tony: Oh, I ~~worked~~ ^{only} work there for a short time I was in maintenance.

Me: If you had to do it all over again would you choose the same job, why or why not?

Tony: Yeh, I'm satisfied with my job. I got good hours, good pay, and good benefits.

Me: Do you have anything else you would like to add.

Tony: Nope

Me: Thank-you

Tony: Your welcome.